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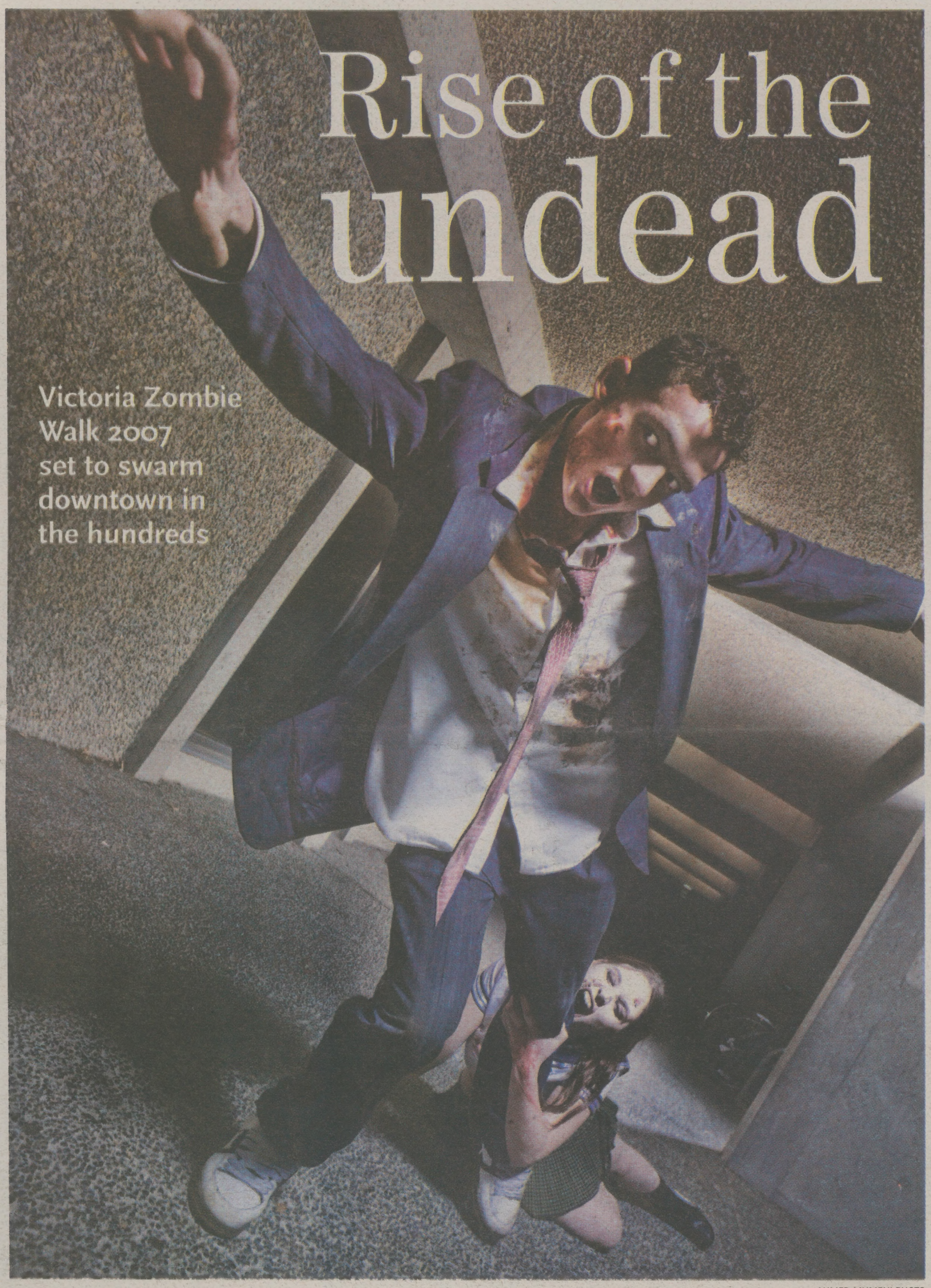
Oct. 25, 2007 The University of Victoria's Independent Newspaper Vol. 60, No. 12 www.martlet.ca

Coming back from the dead for 60 years

Rise of the undead

Victoria Zombie Walk 2007 set to swarm downtown in the hundreds



AHMED MUMENI PHOTO

Rosemary Westwood and Roland George Rasmussen

"Brains, brains, we want brains!"

Cries of this would offend the purist zombie experts who refute that zombies can speak.

But for Victoria's 2007 Zombie Walk, organizer Sean Brookes will be using a bullhorn to control the parade of an estimated 300 bloody, pasty undead that will surge from Centennial Square at 4 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 27.

"Everyone needs to embrace Halloween more," said Brookes. "This zombie walk is not a programmed event run through City Hall, it's a happening. I think it will be a child-friendly, family-oriented cultural event."

Last year, a much smaller group of zombies patrolled the streets of downtown. But this year, the Facebook group devoted to the walk has spurred the event's popularity.

"All this would not be possible without Facebook," said Brookes, who plans to lead the troops as Charlie Chaplin, the zombie. "You post an event and it happens."

With a member list over 500 people strong, Brookes said the event's draw is all about the fun.

"[You] get dressed up and let your inhibitions run free — let them run amok," he said.

The macabre procession will limp down Broad Street to Government Street, then lurch around Beacon Hill Park to finish in front of the Parliament Buildings. Like something worthy of a Fritz Lang flick, the league of undead may include police officers, nurses, pirates, farmers, protesters — anybody can become a zombie.

Zombie-walker Kelly Chase suggested aspiring zombies keep it simple.

"Bloody shirt and ripped pants with bloody makeup," she said. "I managed to luck out and find a fake cut-off arm prop so I am going to incorporate it into my costume."

With walks in Vancouver, Toronto, Calgary and even Melbourne, Australia, this horror subculture is gaining ground worldwide.

"Montreal's got one that goes through the underground mall they have," said Brookes.

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War on drugs will fail: experts

Government opponents call for greater focus on harm reduction initiatives

Nathan Lowther

Drug legislation in Canada is being shaped by political ideology instead of scientific information, say critics of recent federal drug policy announcements. And it's hurting some of society's most vulnerable members.

Critics are concerned that Prime Minister Stephen Harper is shifting towards a U.S.-style war on drugs.

"The message from the federal government right now is that enforcement is the key," said Andrea Langlois of AIDS Vancouver Island. "[Harper] is really focusing on get-tough measures that we know don't work."

She pointed to the rise of HIV and hepatitis C rates in the U.S. as evidence of the ineffectiveness of an enforcement-first strategy.

Harper and Health Minister Tony Clement announced $64 million in new funding across the country. But they also announced a shift away from harm reduction. Harm reduction is one of the elements of the four-pillars approach that has been much discussed in Vancouver. According to the Centre for Addictions Research of BC (CARBC), the money will be split between the other three pillars, with treatment receiving $32 million, enforcement receiving $22 million and prevention receiving $10 million.

"This government is of the view that the National Anti-Drug Strategy constitutes an appropriately balanced approach through the delivery of a continuum of prevention, treatment and enforcement activities designed to significantly prevent harm," said Carole Saindon of Health Canada in an e-mail.

But Dr. Scott Macdonald, associate professor at UVic and assistant director of research for CARBC, warned that anything short of "super, super severe" penalties is unlikely to have much affect. Macdonald said he worries tougher drug penalties will instead lead to a rise in violence as dealers do more to avoid getting caught.

Macdonald also pointed out that the money invested, while looking impressive, doesn't go that far when one considers it will be divided between all provinces and territories. And he said he worries that the lack of funding toward harm reduction is short-sighted.

"They're spending a little more than [$500,000] a year on needle exchange programs," he said. "But when you think of the consequences of one person having HIV, that could easily cost [$500,000] in terms of lost wages, drain on resources and treatment costs."

Sharing needles is one of the leading causes of HIV transmission in Canada and AIDS Vancouver Island cites studies that show needle exchange programs can be expected to "prevent at least 24 HIV infections" over a five year span. Macdonald stressed that treatment and prevention are important, but said harm-reduction pays for itself in the long run.

And beyond money, harm-reduction has been proven to save lives.

Jeff West, an employee at Vancouver's Insite — North America's only safe consumption site for illicit drug users — said they have an average of 250 overdose incidents a year and have yet to have a death. Further, Vancouver Coastal Health (VCH), who is involved in the running of Insite, has results of studies published in prestigious medical journals posted on their website. One study published in the New England Journal of Medicine found, "Insite is leading to increased uptake into detoxification programs and addiction treatment." Another study from the American Journal of Preventive Medicine reported that it is the "highest-risk users" that come to Insite.

Still, Insite was unable to get a three-and-a-half year extension on their exception under Section 56 of the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act they applied for. They need the exception to allow illegal drugs like heroin and crack brought on site. But they were only granted half a year by Clement.

"This extension will allow research on how supervised injection sites affect prevention, treatment and crime to be continued for six more months," said the Health Canada press release. Both West and Langlois described this as an "ideological" decision, with West saying the government has ignored the scientific evidence already published.

There is also a benefit to the community at large. West and Langlois report they receive a 104 per cent return on syringes handed out. This means there are less dirty needles being discarded in bushes and parks.

But both stressed that the biggest need is policy that considers drug addicts as people.

"They're marginalized, living on the street, and see a lot of horrific shit," said West. "It doesn't help someone get out by berating them, but loving them, supporting them — they're human beings. People have empathy for kids who go through a lot of shit, but when they hit 19, forget it."

Continued from p. 1

Prepare to be bitten

Rockabilly bands have taken on the zombie motif, Brookes said.

"Local bands like Switchblade Valentines, Creepshow, their bands all centre around the monster movie, zombie, 1950s devilry," he said.

Even amassing a group to march the streets of downtown Victoria with the single goal of eating human flesh isn't as far from our modern society as some might think.

"The zombie-walk metaphor stems from the take on modern-day society," said Brookes, adding people today are similar to zombies in that everybody strives for a single goal.

"In the case of zombies that goal would be to sustain the undead shell, and opposite to that, the living would be going according to the protocol: another day, another dollar. Work, make money, repeat."

The walk's after-party will see throngs of zombies take over Soprano's Karaoke and Sports Bar, but Chase said that though she may be singing, she won't be shouting "brains" and she doesn't believe zombies can talk.

"If a zombie rips out your throat including your voice box, how would you be able to say, 'Brains?'" asked Chase.

Perhaps the best way to find out what zombies can and can't do is to show up ready to be bitten.

University of Victoria Students' Society / Canadian Federation of Students Local 44

UVSS

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

CFS FCE

THURSDAY OCTOBER 25, 2007 – 3:00PM, MICHELE PUJOL ROOM

*Please Recycle

• AGENDA •

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. APPROVAL OF CHAIR
3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA
   a. Agenda of 07/10/25 AGM
4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES
   a. Minutes of 07/03/29 SGM
5. SPECIAL RESOLUTIONS
6. REPORTS
   a. Board of Directors Report
      Motion to adopt the report of the Board of Directors
      BIRT the October 2007 report of the Board of Directors be adopted as presented.
   b. Directors at Large Reports
      Motion to adopt the reports of the Directors at Large
      BIRT the reports of the Directors at Large be adopted as presented.
7. FINANCIAL MOTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

   Motion to adopt the budget
   BIRT the 2007/2008 Budget of the University of Victoria Students' Society – Local 44 of the Canadian Federation of Students – be adopted as presented.

   Motion to adopt the audited financial statements
   BIRT the 2006/2007 audited financial statements be adopted as presented.

   Motion to re-appoint the auditors
   BIRT the firm of Allen & Krauel Inc. be appointed as the official auditors of the University of Victoria Students' Society – Local 44 of the Canadian Federation of Students – for the fiscal year of 2007/2008.
8. QUESTION PERIOD (limit 30 minutes)
9. OTHER BUSINESS

   Motion to ban Canadian Military recruitment in the SUB

   WHEREAS attempts to ban Armed Forces recruitment in the Student Union Building is not an attempt to restrict students' rights to sign up for the Armed Forces, but rather a symbolic gesture of protest towards the Canadian Military recruitment practices; and

   WHEREAS students have the right to collectively and democratically decide who has the right to use student space; therefore

   BIRT the Canadian Military not be permitted to book space within the SUB for the purposes of recruitment.

   Motion to Adopt Recommendations of Sandra McCallum's Report on the Review of the 2006 and 2007 UVSS Elections

   WHEREAS Sandra McCallum conducted a review of the 2006 and 2007 elections on behalf of the UVSS; and

   WHEREAS Professor McCallum concluded there was a need for substantial reform and made numerous recommendations;

   BIRT the UVSS adopt the recommendations of Sandra McCallum.

   Motion to Hire

   BIRT the UVSS hire an independent, impartial, and qualified individual to incorporate the recommendations into the Electoral Policy prior to the 2008 UVSS Elections.
10. NOTICE OF MOTION
11. ANNOUNCEMENTS
12. ADJOURNMENT

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Afghan mission hotly debated by panel

Tempers rise during debate hosted by Students Against War one week before major AGM vote

Kyle D. D'Odorico

With a vote on whether or not to ban the Canadian Forces from recruiting in the Student Union Building scheduled for Oct. 25, a debate on Canada's presence in Afghanistan added more food for thought.

Named "The Mission," the UVic Students Against War club held the panel debate on Oct. 18 in the Human and Social Development Building.

Anthony Fenton, a journalist currently co-authoring a book on Canadian foreign affairs, sat on the panel and argued against Canada's presence in Afghanistan. Arguing for Canada's presence was Bill Danielson, a UVic student and a member of the Canadian Forces, who served in both the Navy and the intelligence branch and spent seven months in Afghanistan.

The debate was supposed to feature three panelists, but Students Against War decided to pull the third panelist, Francisco Juarez. The planners of the event said that because Juarez would be arguing alongside Fenton, it would lead to a one-sided debate.

Students Against War held the debate to "keep the Afghan issue on the minds of students as they go into the annual general meeting," said member Tim Fournier.

However, Fournier stressed the importance of the Afghan issue as a standalone problem, and said the debate would have taken place regardless of whether or not there was a motion to ban the military.

When asked about Canada's role in Afghanistan, Danielson strongly insisted that he, and all Canadian Forces members, were "there because we were asked to be there," and have aided in reconstruction for the six years the Canadian Forces have been present. He himself raised money to help build a well for a village.

> "There would be a collapse — the Taliban could [then] move back."
>
> *– Bill Danielson, Canadian Forces member, on an immediate withdrawl from Afghanistan*

Fenton, however, was more critical about Canadian presence, and said that in some aspects, the occupation has been detrimental to Afghanistan as a whole.

He called the skyrocketing production of opium "out of control," and referred to Canada's presence in Afghanistan as "an exercise in imperialism."

The panelists also debated the results of an immediate withdrawal of troops.

"There would be a collapse — the Taliban could [then] move back," Danielson said. He added that he would only support a withdrawal when the Canadian and Afghan governments decide it's the right time. Until then he believes that Afghani people deserve the help of Canadians.

Fenton said that unless there was some sort of political compromise, a withdrawal would cause "a vacuum [in Afghanistan] that would be filled with NATO allies or the Taliban." However, he stressed that if preceded by a fair compromise, the complete withdrawal of Canadian forces "would be a benefit for the entire world," referring to his view on Canadian neo-imperialism.

When tackling the issue of women's rights in pre- and post-Taliban Afghanistan, both Fenton and Danielson cited two differing opinions from the Revolutionary Association of Women in Afghanistan (RAWA).

Danielson quoted a RAWA representative as being in support of a Canadian Forces presence for the time being.

"Under no circumstances do [RAWA] want us to leave now," he said.

However, Fenton quoted a RAWA opinion that was in stark contrast with the one presented by Danielson.

RAWA, according to Fenton, is "calling for foreigners out of Afghanistan."

Fenton said that he believes Canadian Forces are "alienating more Afghan women by bombarding these villages."

Other issues tackled by the panel were the use of banned weaponry, the process of reconstruction and the confinement and interrogation of potential terrorists.

The discussion was divided into two sections, beginning with the formal debate between the two panelists followed by a second section where the audience was asked to share their views with the panelists.

The formal debate started at 7 p.m. and stretched to roughly 8:30 p.m., while concerned audience members debated until just past 10 p.m.

While the formal part of the debate was well structured and polite, the beginning of the question and answer period took a sharp turn towards the ugly.

One audience member forcefully insisted that Danielson "open [his] eyes," in response to the point Danielson made about Afghanistan collapsing should Canadian Forces withdraw.

In response to that comment, fellow audience member Steffan Chmaryk said, "There seems to be a lot of cynicism in the audience."

Many audience members politely began asking that people keep a cool head, before continuing to pose questions of their own.

Though both panelists represented the two sides effectively, the debate appeared to fail to change any opinions. The night ended on what seemed to be an agreement to disagree between both sides.

AGM DETAILS

Date: Oct. 27
Time: 3 p.m.
Place: Michèle Pujol Room
Issue: Vote will be held on whether to ban the Canadian Forces from recruiting in the Student Union Building.

CORRECTION

The Martlet erroneously reported Oct. 18 that the Island Sexual Health Society's community sexual health educator, Jennifer Gibson, said that women who take Garadsil will skip Pap tests. In fact, Gibson said that women who take Gardasil must not skip Pap tests. Pap tests are the best way to detect lesions that may lead to cervical cancer.

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2008 GRAD CLASS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING*

THURS. NOV. 8th, 2007
3:00pm SUB
Room B025

REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED

*Grad Class Executive elections will be held at the meeting

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For more info contact Chairperson Tracy Ho 721-8370 or email chair@uvss.uvic.ca

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Against War & Occupation
UVIC

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Iraq & Afghanistan War, Occupation & Destruction, What Now?

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Man stunned by police with Taser

Victoria yoga instructor zapped after altercation at house party with Saanich police officer

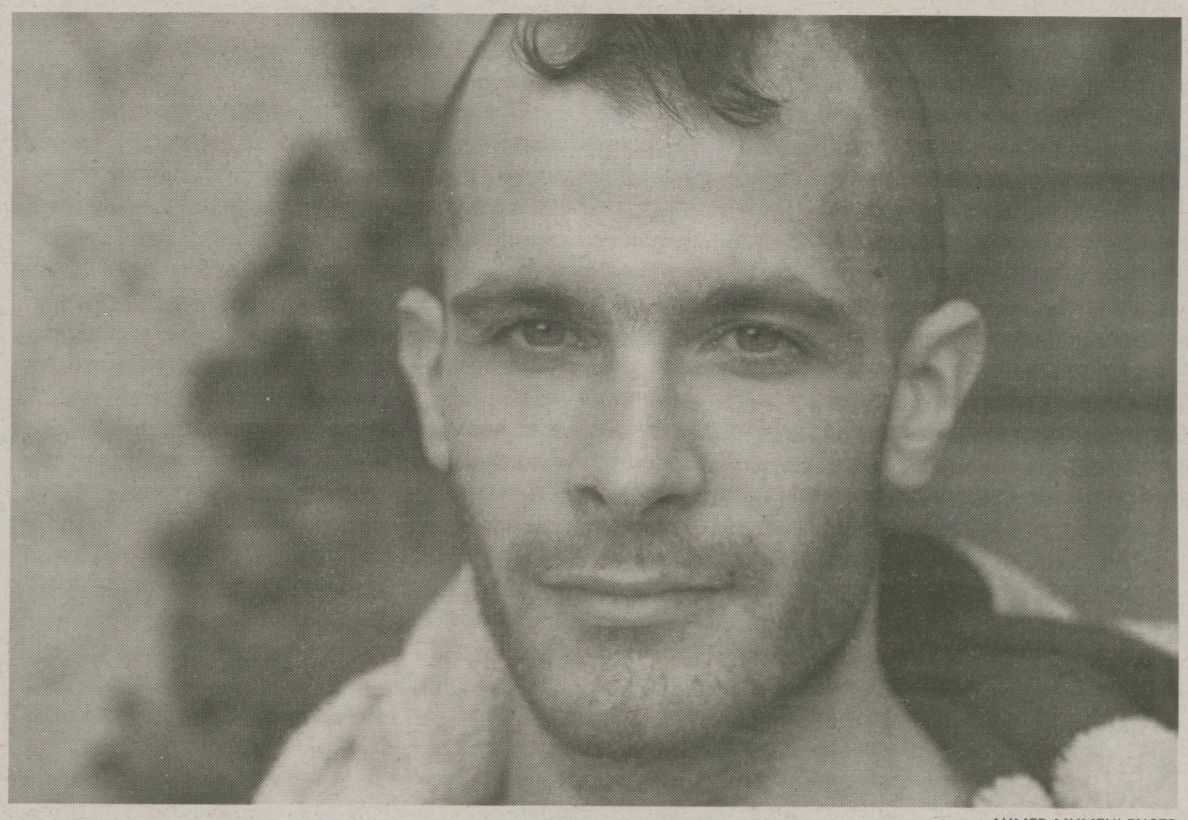
Steve Carey

A Saanich police officer stunned a man with a Taser at a house party on Sunday, Oct. 14, the same night that other stuns in Vancouver and Montreal resulted in death.

Manuel Rochette, 27, a French Canadian yoga instructor and musician, was one of the hosts of a party in a three-storey house in the 1800 block of Haultain Street. Saanich police officers arrived after midnight to shut the party down.

Rochette was involved in what he calls "a misunderstanding" with one of the officers that resulted in him being stunned in the back with a Taser.

Rochette had cut his hair into a Mohawk before the party, which he said might have contributed to his treatment by police. Rochette was in his front yard talking to the officers when he was stunned with a Taser. He estimated there were more than 50 people spread over the yard.



AHMED MUMENI PHOTO

Manuel Rochette, 27, a French Canadian yoga instructor, was stunned with a Taser in his yard during a dispute with a police officer early morning Oct. 14. That same morning two Taser stunnings caused deaths.

"The guy who Tasered me was really aggressive and he was speaking to me unrespectfully, and pushing his words and authority against me," said Rochette. "I was super calm and just wanted people to leave. I was not excited. I was not high. I do not drink."

Rochette said he asked other officers to witness how aggressive the officer was toward him, but that they didn't seem to care. He said he could see the anger and stress in the officer's face.

"To reassure him, I touch him on the arm for a fraction of a second — just to reassure, a gentle touch, just to say, 'OK, that's OK' — and as soon as that [happened], he totally jumped on me and decided I did something super wrong and I was dangerous."

Rochette was pushed to the ground by the officer. He screamed, panicked that the officer was going to beat him.

"He pushed me on the ground, released, I twisted out of it ... and I saw him grabbing onto something. I got super scared — I didn't know if it was a gun – then he came back on me, grabbed on me again, and Tased me," said Rochette. "He just came up to me, and 'Gzzzz.'"

It was at this point that Rochette experienced a push-stun: a Taser-to-body touch meant to quickly incapacitate a person.

"At this moment I just decided to surrender. I just knew I did nothing wrong and I was totally understanding there was a misunderstanding," said Rochette. "Even when I was [limp] he was still shaking me around and controlling me, even though I was totally collaborative."

Sgt. John Price, Saanich police media officer, had a different account of the events. He said the officers were talking with other residents of the home when Rochette asked them to leave the property.

"This person didn't 'touch' the officer — he forcibly grabbed the officer and attempted to move him," said Price. "At that time he was advised he was under arrest for assaulting a police officer. [The officer] made an attempt to arrest the person; that person began struggling and fighting with police."

Price said many of the people outside were very anti-police and anti-authoritative, both verbally and physically. Other officers came over to assist in the arrest, removing them from their crowd control duties.

"You've got 100 party revellers, most of which are anti-authoritative toward you. The quickest way to get compliance and to free up all your other officers without having three or four dealing with one person is a quick push-stun, immediate compliance, then the person is put in the police car and they're gone," said Price.

> "He just came up to me and 'Gzzzz.'"
>
> *– Manuel Rochette, about feeling 50,000 volts.*

Price said large crowd control situations need to be resolved quickly so they don't escalate into a melee.

"I realize there are some issues in Vancouver about someone dying with a Taser. Most often, instead of using open hand tactics or other striking instruments — like a defensive baton — the Taser gets immediate compliance with little or no injury to both the person being arrested and the person making the arrest," said Price.

Police use-of-force options range from physical presence, commands, open hand control techniques, defensive police baton, Taser, pepper spray and then deadly force. The force option an officer uses is specified by the scenario.

"[The Taser] is better than having three or four police officers trying to wrestle with someone on the ground trying to control his feet and arms and prevent injury to him and the officers," said Price.

Price said the longer a suspect is flailing about in close range to officers the more potential there is for injury for everyone involved.

"He actually apologized to the officer later, and was subsequently released without criminal charges because he saw the error of his ways," said Price.

According to the Canadian Press, 17 people have died after a Taser shock in Canada since 1998. In many of those cases the people had drugs in their systems.

Rochette said he's lucky he's a strong, healthy person who recovered without any emotional or physical trauma. He's calm after having 50,000 volts of electricity run through his body. The Taser left a small mark on his back for a day, and his neck was sore, but otherwise he's healthy. He said that his background in yoga has helped him overcome this trauma.

"Police wear the uniform — they have the mindset to see fear and danger everywhere. They don't use non-violent communication at all. What would I say [to the officer]? Use more reason and discretion," said Rochette. "[There are] many things I would tell him. I'd like to meet him for hours and hours and talk about life. I could tell there were a lot of things on his mind."

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B.C. students pay more

Sean Peterson

Students in British Columbia are paying more for tuition than the average Canadian, according to Statistics Canada's 2007 Tuition Fee survey, released on Oct. 18.

According to the survey, the average cost of tuition for full-time undergraduates in B.C. for the 2007-2008 school year is $4,855 – seven per cent more than the national average. Graduate students in B.C. pay $5,716, five per cent more than average.

The news prompted the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) to call on the B.C. provincial government to reduce tuition by 10 per cent next year.

"While the B.C. government has been posting billion-dollar surpluses, student debt has climbed to highest in Canada outside the Maritimes," said CFS-BC chairman Shamus Reid in a statement.

According to the CFS, Canadians have amassed over $12 billion in student loan debt.

"The high cost of education facing young people is the primary barrier for them in pursuing post-secondary education," said CFS national chairperson Amanda Aziz. "It's preventing a number of Canadian families and students from being able to [afford] a post secondary education."

The national average for undergraduate tuition fees rose this year by 2.8 per cent to $4,524, continuing a long trend of escalating costs for post-secondary education in Canada. Comparatively, the average cost of tuition was $3,064 in 1998, and $1,185 in 1988.

The continuing tuition increase is "a real indication that there's a lack of proper funding for post-secondary institutions in Canada," said Zach Churchill, national chairman of the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (CASA). "There's a real need for the federal government and the provinces to play a leadership role in developing a national strategy for post-secondary education."

The 2.8 per cent rise in average tuition is the smallest increase in over a decade. Last year saw a 3.2 per cent increase, while during the 1990's the average increase was 9.6 per cent a year. Churchill is optimistic that this is a sign of good things to come.

"I think the increase was a little bit lower this year because of the work student leaders have done across the country," he said. "We're very active on the provincial and federal scene, and we're pushing government officials to increase spending on post-secondary education."

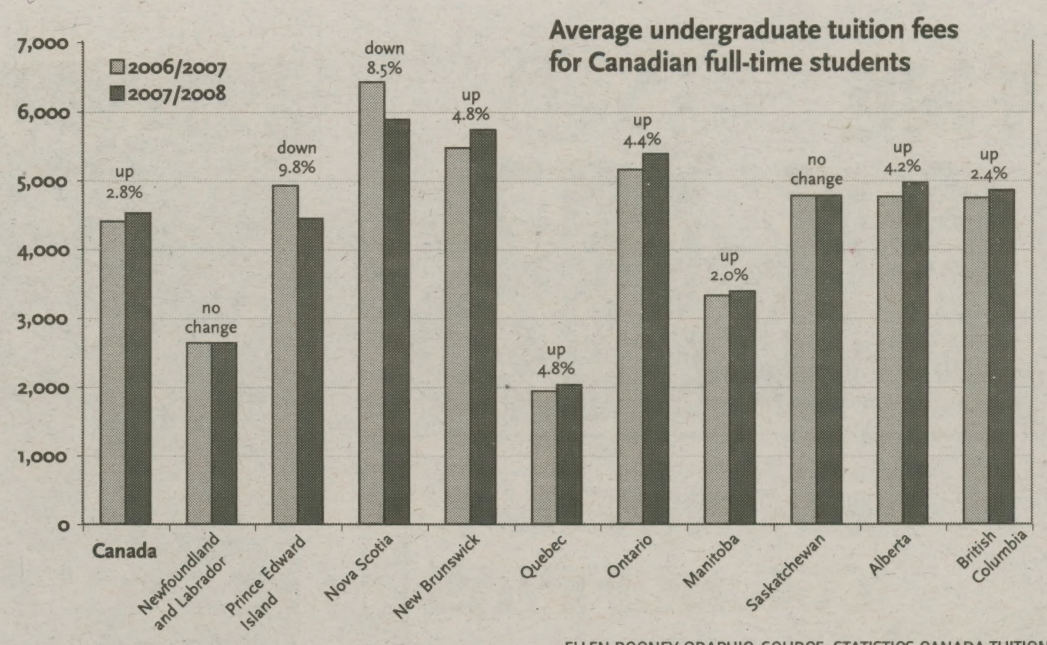
B.C. was one of six provinces to see an increase in average tuition, which has gone up every year since a tuition freeze was abolished by the Campbell government in 2002. Students in B.C. now pay an average $2,830 more on tuition than students in Quebec, where fees are the lowest.

"There was a [tuition] freeze in B.C. throughout the '90s, and then the institutions played catch-up after that freeze came off. The government's current policy is to limit tuition fees to the rate of inflation," said Ministry of Advanced Education communications director Gordon Williams.

Contributing to increased tuition this year was a 15.6 per cent rise in average additional compulsory fees now totaling $570, which include fees for services in health, recreation and athletics, as well as student associations.

CFS and CASA both said tuition fees are too high, and students need to make themselves heard.

"We encourage students to get involved with their student unions on campus and to get involved with provincial campaigns," said Aziz.



ELLEN ROONEY GRAPHIC. SOURCE: STATISTICS CANADA TUITION STUDY

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ENGINEERS DRIVE UNITED WAY FUNDRAISER

JOSH SZCZEPANOWSKI PHOTO

Fitting for UVic, a Volkswagon Rabbit replaced the traditional Bug for the Engineering Students' Society's annual Ring Road push on Oct. 21. The event raised money for the United Way.

NEWS BRIEF

Fireworks banned

The City of Victoria has joined Oak Bay in banning the sale, possession and discharge of fireworks.

According to a City of Victoria press release, the ban is designed to reduce the risk of injuries and property damage caused by fireworks. People can apply for permits to use fireworks, however.

Those who violate the bylaw could face a minimum penalty of $200 and a maximum of $10,000 in Victoria, or a fine between $100 and $1,000 in Oak Bay.

Victoria cited compact neighbourhoods and a high population density as well as urban forests as reasons why the city is not conducive to family firework displays. Firecrackers, fireballs, Roman Candles, sky rockets, squibs and torpedoes are among the list of fireworks listed in Victoria's ban.

- Rosemary Westwood

This week in Martlet history

60 years

Oct. 30, 2003 — An anonymous postering campaign targeting noisy white males was the subject of chatter around campus. The group, Concerned Students Against Annonying White Guys, stole the attention from a Vertigo anti-racism forum and defined "annoying white males" as those who talk too often about dead white guys and expect to be listened to.

Visit our website for more information, or contact Jeff Kendrew if interested:
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Three deer found dead in Saanich

Animal is often hunted illegally in rural areas for antlers, meat and wall decorations

Graham Briggs

Saanich Police and a Ministry of Environment conservation officer are investigating the discovery of three deer carcasses in the Blenkinsop Valley.

On Oct. 11, a dead buck was found by Blenkinsop Road residents on their property. It had been shot with a hunting arrow. The arrow, which passed through the buck, was found in the 4700 block of Cordova Bay Road, some distance from where the carcass was found. The deer was likely shot near Cordova Bay Road and ran away from the poachers before dying near Blenkinsop Road.

A police spokesperson said the deer are being killed for their meat and antlers. "In each case, it's partly meat and partly trophy," said Saanich Police Sgt. John Price.

When investigators arrived to retrieve the dead buck, a neighbour of the Blenkinsop Road residents who called them was butchering the animal in his garage. The investigators "explained to them that they weren't allowed to do that," said Sgt. Price.

The investigators took the carcass. There are no suspects in this case.

On Oct. 12, the remains of two deer, likely bucks, were found halfway up Mt. Douglas by walkers who first noticed crows in a feeding frenzy. The deer had been butchered and had their antlers removed before being dumped illegally.

Ministry of Environment conservation officer Peter Powell said the dumped deer remains could have come from anywhere. "Sometimes people will dump the carcasses illegally to avoid paying to have them disposed of," he said. "It's a case of illegal dumping more than poaching.

> "Every year we have incidents of people bowhunting illegally in Saanich."
>
> *– Peter Powell, conservation officer*

"Ninety per cent of the time it's large bucks that are being taken. Those are the ones with the large antlers," said Powell, adding that the antlers have no real black market value. "It's basically for putting on a wall."

The investigators' main concern is human safety, not the Island's healthy deer population. Because of human population density, Greater Victoria's municipalities are not safe for hunting.

"If it's a situation where somebody's life gets endangered by careless hunting, then we would view that very seriously and we would be seeking as high a penalty we could get," said Powell. Under the B.C. Wildlife Act, anyone caught bowhunting in city limits could face a $5,000 fine and six months in jail.

Deer poaching in Greater Victoria municipalities is common. Powell said he hears of roughly 10 poaching incidents a year, but predicted that far more go unreported.

"Every year we have incidents of people bowhunting illegally in Saanich," he said, "and in other rural municipalities of Greater Victoria as well — Metchosin, Sooke, the Highlands, Langford. It's happening all over."

Powell said that the same people are likely responsible for many of the poaching cases and he anticipates the discovery of more carcasses this year. "We also expect to find more cases where the deer is injured and walking around with an arrow sticking out of it," he added. "We get a few of those every year as well."

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Opinions

EDITORIAL

Work hard and show up to vote

Oct. 17 was a bleak day for democracy.

Federal Liberal leader Stéphane Dion named off all the things he thought were wrong with Prime Minister Stephen Harper's throne speech from the previous day. It was a long list. Dion took issue to policy dealing with almost everything under the sun — the Canadian Wheat Board, the Afghanistan mission, the environment, Darfur, Senate reform, federal spending power, seniors, children, health care, tax cuts, crime, post-secondary education, softwood lumber and international trade.

"I would like to begin by congratulating the Governor General for the elegance with which she delivered the speech from the throne," Dion told the House of Commons. "Unfortunately, my congratulations will almost have to stop there. The meager speech from the throne delivered yesterday is so vague, so full of holes and raises so many concerns that it warrants little praise."

But Dion then announced that his party would abstain from voting against the throne speech. Why, one might ask, would the Liberals abstain from something they so strongly oppose?

"The Throne Speech we heard yesterday, with all of its weaknesses, has to be assessed in light of the fact that Canadians do not want another election right now. They want Parliament to do its job," Dion said.

But what is Parlaiment's job? What is the job of the official opposition, more importantly? We elect Members of Parliament to vote on our behalf. They are paid almost $150,000 per year to do so. An MP who abstains from voting is not doing their job.

MPs are expected, however, to vote their conscience and stand up for their constituents. If the rest of the Liberal caucus feels as strongly about the throne speech as their leader does, then they can only conclude that they must represent the interests of those who elected them, and vote against what they view as a backwards, regressive document, regardless of whether or not it triggers an election.

While it is true that no Canadian government has ever fallen because of a throne speech, that is no excuse for political cowardice. While Dion argues that Canadians do not want another election, surely Canadians do not want a Harper government in office with a vision as negative as Dion says it is. He should take his convictions to the Canadian people and let them decide.

If they agree, Dion's party will be rewarded with the task of forming government. If the public disagrees, Harper may gain a majority. But at least the Liberals could sleep at night for voting with their convictions.

To be fair to Dion, he isn't the first politician to abstain from voting to avoid an election. As the Liberal leader pointed out in his speech, Harper did the very same thing in 2005, for exactly the same reason as Dion: to avoid a drumming in a federal election.

Harper has developed a reputation for shrewdness and aptitude for political chess. In contrast, Dion hasn't yet graduated from political checkers but is respected and acknowledged as humble, honest and decent by all parties. For this reason, it is a great shame that Dion did not deem it worthy to follow his convictions and ask his party to vote with him to defeat the government.

Let's hope that the next time a confidence motion comes along, Dion and his party vote against what they believe to be detrimental to the interests of Canadians. That's what they're paid to do.

Editorial topics are decided on by staff at our weekly editorial meeting at 12:30 p.m. every Friday in the Martlet office (SUB B011). Editorials are written by one or more staff members and are not necessarily the opinion of all staff members.

TWO GREAT DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS: THE HOUSE OF COMMONS AND THE UVSS

SPENCER ANDERSON GRAPHIC

LETTERS

Help people help themselves

I would like to clarify a few things discussed in a recent Martlet article (Students jam for change, Oct. 11). Engineers Without Borders (EWB) works overseas with the hope of building upon skills that local communities already possess. We do not "teach" new skills. Also, the term "Third World countries" is discriminatory and outdated. I recall using the term "developing countries" in the interview.

EWB aims to work in partnership with local organizations and communities who possess and demonstrate entrepreneurial skills. Canadians do not "drive the development" of developing countries; rather, groups like EWB assist in the development of sustainable programs within communities. Canadians will not develop countries such as Ghana and Malawi; Ghanaians and Malawians will. However, we can put pressure on our government and corporations so that poverty alleviation efforts on the ground-level are given needed support.

EWB believes that technology plays an important role in development. Small-scale irrigation systems, water and sanitation facilities, mechanized food processing equipment, and results-based management activities are useful tools in the struggle out of poverty. When creativity, technology, and teamwork are appropriately incorporated into each community's social, cultural, economic and political context extraordinary change can result.

- Nicole Fornelli, EWB-UVic chapter member

Abortion not linked to cancer

On Oct. 18, at the corner of McKenzie Avenue and Gordon Head Road, I was confronted with a bus shelter "ad" which left me speechless with disgust.

"Why wasn't I told?" wonders the artfully downcast woman. Her gaze directs you to www.AbortionBreastCancer.ca, which argues a cause-and-effect relationship between abortions and breast cancer.

Their claim is 90 per cent twisted words and willful ignorance. The truth is that the later one's first full-term pregnancy is delayed, the higher the risk of developing breast cancer. The reason for that delay makes no difference. To put it another way, there is nothing about abortions which increase a woman's risk of breast cancer. The only link is the consequent later date of completed pregnancy, which is already a widely-accepted risk factor among physicians.

This "ad" should have advertised a true list of risk factors and ways to minimize their effects. The "ad" instead terrorizes women into having unwanted babies and increases public support of the degradation of women's body rights.

The next morning, I noted with pleasure that the "ad" had been removed. I applaud this decision and strongly encourage BC Transit to remove all copies of this fearmongering anti-women's-rights "ad" across the province.

- Kyliah Clarkson, UVic student

Canada answers to the UN

I was shocked to find an opinion piece in the Martlet which vilified Canada's involvement in Afghanistan on the basis that it was an "American attack, invasion, torture, rape, and massacre" (Canada's cowardly complicity, Oct. 18). This is a fallacy. The deployment of Canadian troops to Afghanistan is part of a NATO movement. That means the United Nations is responsible for it. It is a peacekeeping mission, not an invasion. The purpose of the mission was to remove the Taliban from power because of their human rights infractions. While I agree that the military should not be allowed to recruit people on campus, I do not agree with fabrication of facts to back up an argument. If you do not know what you are talking about, then keep your mouth shut.

- Jennifer Duggan, UVic student

Savoie weighs in on tuition fees

We recently learned that average undergraduate student fees exceeded the $5,000 mark for the first time last year. This year they rose another $184 – more than double the value of the Conservatives' measly textbook tax credit.

All the government could say in its Throne Speech is that it realizes that everyday families are concerned about the soaring costs of higher education. Yet there is no plan to address soaring student fees that widen the gap between rich kids and everyone else. It is patently unfair that low and middle-income families are forced to pay significantly more for higher education, through student loan interest, than those who can afford to pay upfront. While universities facing budget crunches reach into students' pockets for the answers, they should be looking to Ottawa.

Even with next year's anticipated increase, core federal funding for post-secondary education, in proportion to the economy, is less than one-half what it was before the Liberal cuts of the '90s. A fraction of the government's $14 billion surplus could restore and protect the affordability and quality of Canada's public universities and colleges.

Ottawa's debt to its students is long overdue.

- Denise Savoie, Victoria MP

Religious assessment biased

Mohamed Ghilan misses his own point (Letters to the editor, Oct. 18). He encourages everyone to "closely examine their beliefs and carry out a critical thinking process that lacks bias and limited ideas," while arguing from a religious stance.

Ghilan claims to do good deeds out of fear of punishment and desire for a reward from a god. Is it not truly a less biased or limited view to do good deeds because you personally believe them to be right? I would rather live a moral, full and happy life out of my own volition then to appease a jealous god that I cannot ever know.

I have evidence that I exist in this life, and I have evidence that I did not exist before I was born. I have no evidence of what will happen when I die. Should I then not live as though this existence is all I have?

I believe that it is Mohamed Ghilan who needs to put his fear aside, take his own suggestion and look closely, critically and objectively at his own beliefs.

- Michael Brown, UVic student

Continued on facing page

Happy? Sad? Enraged? Engaged? Tell us: letters@martlet.ca

The Martlet has an open letters policy and will endeavour to print every letter received from the university community. Letters must be submitted by e-mail, include your real name and affiliation to UVic, and have "Letter to the editor" in the subject line. Letters must be under 200 words and may be edited.

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Consumers need a break

Benefits from rising Canadian dollar should be passed on to shoppers

Spencer Anderson

On Oct. 23, the Canadian dollar reached US$1.0378, reaffirming the surge in strength of the loonie over the last few years. But consumers aren't feeling the benefit of that surge.

Recent exchange rates between our dollar and the U.S. greenback have shattered 30-year records. The last time the Canadian dollar was at par with its American counterpart was back in the '70s, when many UVic students weren't even born.

Usually one of the problems associated with a high Canadian dollar is a loss of jobs and a drop in exports. However, unemployment is at a 30-year low and the economy is humming along. Jobs are being created faster than they are being eliminated, and Canadians are faced with the pleasant prospect of having more disposable income. However, with the economy doing well, Canadian retailers are not reducing retail prices accordingly.

Federal Finance Minister Jim Flaherty met with a group of retailers on Oct. 23 to discuss the "difficulties" of making price stickers across the country reflect the economy's strength. According to CBC News, the retail group was organized by Derek Nighbor, national affairs vice-president of the Retail Council of Canada. Nighbor argued that because Canadian retailers must absorb duties charged on imports, it is necessary to keep prices at the current level to retain market stability. He also said that due to the scale of U.S. buying power, retailers must keep prices high in order to compete.

It seems, then, the old expression still rings true today: no one knows less about the economy than an economist. Nighbor's rhetoric is about as convincing as Steven Segal's *Hamlet*.

Canadians aren't asking for prices to hit 1950-era levels, and they don't expect massive restructuring in the retail sector. What they do expect, however, is that they will see some savings on their purchases. If the retailers were making ends meet when the dollar was hovering at 90 U.S. cents, they could certainly make do when it breaks the roof at $1.038.

> The Canadian government has every reason to pressure Nighbor and the 40,000 retailers he represents to adjust what they charge Canadians.

The Canadian government has every reason to pressure Nighbor and the 40,000 retailers he represents to adjust what they charge Canadians. Not only is it right in principle to adjust pricing, but to not do so would be detrimental to the economic health of the country.

Many Canadians, frustrated by the price gap between Canada and the U.S., are travelling into the U.S. to purchase items they could easily find in Canadian stores. The savings are especially significant for luxury and all-terrain vehicles.

This money could be flowing back into Canada. Many Canadians have a desire to buy in Canada, but retailers — and by extension the government — aren't giving them any incentives whatsoever.

To be fair, not all retailers are lagging behind. Wal-Mart, Zellers and Porsche announced a reduction of prices for some items. More retailers need to follow suit. The real excuse for not doing so, it must be concluded, would be greed.

Canadians who are frustrated by the price gap may rightly wonder what good the capitalist system is if they are expected to pick up the bill in times of hardship, but are denied a share in the bounty.

Canada is a team — we sink and swim together. As Canadians, we all toughed it out in the recession. Now retailers should do the right thing and let consumers in on the good times.

Plenty of reasons to oppose military

Edward Pullman
UVSS DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE

On April 5, during a meeting of the previous UVic Students' Society (UVSS) board of directors, a motion was passed amending the UVSS issues policy stating that the society opposes the militarization of Canadian society.

At the Sept. 10 UVSS board of directors meeting, UVic Students Against War asked the board to interpret the motion passed on April 5 to mean the Canadian military is unwelcome to recruit in the Student Union Building (SUB). I voted in favour of what has now become a controversial motion, one which has energized and polarized students.

This decision was never meant to be an affront to a student's right to choose a career in the military. As David Newberry pointed out in a letter to the Martlet on Oct. 4, the rights-based rhetoric used by opponents of the ban assumes students need a spokesperson in the SUB on career day in order to be aware of their right to enlist in the military. It is not an assault on freedom or an insult to the intelligence of students for the UVSS to make an ethical decision about who should be allowed to recruit UVic students.

The Canadian military's public relations branch has a $23-million budget and 500 person full-time staff. Television ads, billboards, toll-free numbers to contact recruiters and a recruitment office in downtown Victoria lead me to believe that this ban would not hinder a student's ability to join the military.

I voted to ban military recruiters from the SUB because of my opposition to the growing militarization of our society, seen in the transformation that has occurred in our military in the past two years and our complicity and co-operation with American foreign policy and the war on terror. With the Afghanistan mission and the rhetoric that this is the right mission at the right time, there is an underlying sales campaign taking place: sell the mission, sell rearmament.

Our military has moved away from its traditional role as peacekeepers to one that is hunting down "detestable murderers and scumbags," according to Gen. Rick Hillier, Canada's chief of defence staff.

The problem with this unprecedented expansion of our armed forces is the fact that it is coinciding with a closer military relationship with the United States. Our deployment of troops to Kandahar was done largely to impress the Americans and allow them to rotate out 4,000 troops from Afghanistan for duty in Iraq.

Our presence in Afghanistan is propping up a Parliament full of warlords and gangsters, responsible for the massive increase in opium production (which in turn fuels organized crime here in Canada) and horrible atrocities of rape and murder against the Afghan people. Female parliamentarians such as Malalai Joya have had death threats uttered to them from the floor of the Afghan Parliament by other MPs whom she had denounced for their war crimes during the Afghanistan civil war.

We've simply replaced one group of dictators with another, all in the name of our security interests and under the guise of bringing freedom and democracy to Afghanistan.

The road to rearmament and militarization runs everywhere: through Afghanistan, our media, and our SUB. Support for the recruitment ban is a voice of opposition to the transformation of our military and our complicity with the U.S.-led war on terror. That's why I support the motion to bar the military from the SUB.

LETTERS

Continued from facing page

Attack is inexplicable

Growing up in Alaska, I escaped indoctrination into Ingmar Lee's notion that "Americans see themselves as the greatest epitome of the human race" (Canada's cowardly complicity, Oct. 18). The entire world ought to be aware that Americans are horrified with the situation in Iraq, as we have effected change in our government.

Kids from my high school and dozens more from my hometown come home in body bags. Would you like us to flock to airstrips and jeer soldiers as they return? From Vietnam we learned to avoid directing unnecessary anger at those who were simply caught up in a fiasco.

Similarly, insinuations that people of certain nationalities deserve bombing are indefensible. If such statements were made about any other group, they would smack of hate speech.

Furthermore, while troops were deployed to Afghanistan in a knee-jerk reaction, the fact remains that we suffered devastating attacks. My sister was living one subway stop away from the Pentagon in 2001.

American citizens did nothing to provoke the tragedy; for many of us, such attacks, like those of Lee's hypothetical suicide bomber, remain inexplicable and inexcusable.

- Katherine Hewko, UVic grad student

Exclusion shows weakness

Rachel Barrett attempted to characterize those who oppose the UVSS ban as pro-war (Letters to the editor, Oct. 18). As an anti-war student, I see this debate in the same frame as Barrett's "pro-war" students: the central issue is in fact freedom of choice.

If we were debating the presence of the Canadian armed forces in public schools, where the students represent a captive audience, a ban would be justified. In a university, this is not the case. To say that a vote should decide whether or not the Canadian armed forces can recruit on campus is to say that the anti-war community has no faith in its advocacy. If our arguments are so feeble that we have to exclude our opponents rather than simply having the debate, we might as well join the pro-war cadres in cheering on international aggression.

Also, we should consider the fact that it implies that the rights and freedoms of a minority can be subjected to a vote. By that logic the rights of the traditionally marginalized ought to be put to a vote, which would only serve to embolden those who find funding the Students of Colour Collective, or any other group representing the marginalized members of our society, to be "a waste."

- Nick Cohea, UVic student

Pumpkin palooza

The inside scoop on a Halloween favorite

by Martlet staff

Sitting around the dining room table carving faces into pumpkins has been a favourite Halloween ritual for centuries. With ever-changing technology like the new Jack O' Lantern application on Facebook that lets you "carve" your own pumpkin with the click of a mouse, traditions aren't what they used to be. But what started it all — and where did pumpkins come from, anyway?

According to the Pumpkin-Patch.com, pumpkins originated in North America thousands of years ago, though seeds from related plants have been found in Mexico dating back to 7000 B.C. The orange fruit (that's right, they aren't veggies as many believe) got their name from the Greek word "pepon," which means large melon. This was later altered into the French "pompon," which was changed by the English to "pumpion" and eventually grew into the term "pumpkin."

First Nations peoples had long since used pumpkins as a staple in their diets, as well as drying strips of the fruit to weave into mats. When settlers were introduced to pumpkins, they started using it in everything from stews and soups to desserts (pumpkin pie is said to have originated when people sliced off the top of the pumpkin, removed the seeds, filled it with milk, spices and honey, then baked it over the ashes of a fire).

This week, the Martlet takes an in-depth look at pumpkins.

JENNIFER ZHOU GRAPHIC

Growing pains

The key to growing any type of plant is to know its ideal environment. For pumpkins, that's sun, water and a lot of space. And with Victoria's temperate weather pattern, this isn't a problem. But that doesn't mean that raising pumpkins comes work-free.

Judy Galey, of Galey Farms on Blenkinsop Road, says that growing pumpkins is a pretty basic process.

"You have to start with a good soil and lots of compost," says Galey, whose farm has been at its current location since 1985. "But what you do will depend what you want," she adds. "Atlantic Giant [pumpkins] will grow to be 100, or 200, or 300 pounds, while the little jack-o'-lanterns will just fit in your hands."

Pumpkins prefer a slightly acidic pH range of 6.0 to 6.8 — you can buy a home pH testing kit at any garden store. Seeds are best planted around mid-May for an October harvest, and should be set in little hills one metre apart. The hills can contain two or three seeds each, planted approximately four centimetres deep. Start out with only one or two types of pumpkin seeds, but don't expect to see more than two fruits per vine. Your pumpkin's size will be controlled by its genetics, so choose your seeds carefully.

Insects, disease, overcrowding and weeds are only a few challenges your plant will face. Some pumpkins can even wither or rot right after flowering, but often this is a natural selection done by the plant to give the best fruits more nutrients. Every obstacle has its cure, though. Between natural pesticides (marigolds often rid beetles), keeping the water in check (water only the vines, and only in the morning) and removing diseased plants and weeds your pumpkins are sure to be thriving in no time.

It might seem like a lot of work for a few choice jack-o'-lanterns and, yes, you're probably going to spend more than 10 cents a pound on them — at least the first year. But once you've done it, volunteer plants (the leftover roots or seeds that incubate through the winter before making a surprise arrival in the spring) return frequently with pumpkins, meaning those little beauties might arrive almost effort-free next season.

- Danielle Pope

You don't know Jack

The stories of how pumpkins came to be associated with Halloween is as varied as any myth can get.

One common tale started in Ireland about a man nicknamed Stingy Jack. According to the legend, Jack tricked the Devil into turning himself into a coin that Jack could use to buy them drinks — he then decided to keep the money, holding a cross next to the coin so the Devil couldn't turn back until he swore to leave Jack alone. When Jack later died, God would not allow him into heaven and the Devil (keeping his promise) refused to let him into hell. Instead, he sent Jack off into the dark with only a burning coal, which Jack placed into a carved-out turnip, to roam the Earth with forever more. The Irish referred to this ghostly figure as "Jack of the Lantern," or jack-o'-lantern.

People began to make their own versions of Jack's lantern by carving scary faces into turnips, beets or potatoes, filling them with lumps of coal (later replaced by candles) and placing them in windows or near doors to frighten away Stingy Jack and evil spirits. Other traditions viewed this as an act to welcome deceased loved ones.

When immigrants came to North America, they soon found that pumpkins made perfect jack-o'-lanterns — a term which later came to mean night watchman, and compels families to carve out those vigilant faces today.

- Danielle Pope

JENNIFER ZHOU GRAPHIC

Sculpting a masterpiece

While there are many practical uses for pumpkins, turning them into spooky art is by far the most fun. There's nothing quite like getting your hands in the goo to harvest seeds, carving a scary face and displaying your candlelit master piece outside or in a window.

This festive pastime has become an obsession for Sheryl Shermak (pictured below) and Julia Allain whom, for the past 11 years, have turned their house at 2527 Fernwood Road (just north of Bay Street) into a pumpkin celebration.

PROVIDED PHOTO

"We started with pumpkins going down the steps, then they went down the driveway and it just kept growing and growing," explains Shermak.

Now pumpkins fill their entire yard and back shed. An average of 125 real glowing carved or sculpted pumpkins are on display for the public every year at dusk on Oct. 30 and 31. The two women carve 80 per cent of the pumpkins themselves and are happy to let others help.

Allain is the resident master of pumpkin sculpting, a process which removes layers of the outer flesh of the pumpkin without penetrating it, allowing the artist to create depth in her designs. She starts sculpting 2.5 weeks before the event, working on some pumpkins for 20 minutes and others for two days. She sometimes works from patterns, but is increasingly creating her own designs.

"I can turn anything into a pumpkin design," Allain says.

She uses a mini-screwdriver set and tools from a wood gauging kit to sculpt wizards, traditional First Nations designs or anything else. Pumpkin-specific sculpting kits have been hard to find in recent years. "This is a dying art," sa Allain.

But pumpkin carving is still thriving. Shermak starts her carving a week after Allain because carved pumpkins don't last as long. Shermak swears by Pumpkin Masters carving saws, saying that expensive tools are a waste of money. The same is true, she thinks, for expensive patterns. She gets hers cheap from ZombiePumpkins.com. Shermak recommends picking a flat-faced pumpkin and using push-pins to stick pattern designs to the surface when carving.

The women preserve their finished works until the event by keeping them in a cool, dark place. They monitor them daily and if one of their creations isn't looking so hot, they submerge it in ice water for two hours and let it drip dry again in the dark.

Allain and Shermak welcome people to drop off pumpkins for their display any time before Oct. 30.

- Sam VanSchie

JENNIFER ZHOU GRAPHIC

The sweet smell of baking

When the leaves start to turn, a baker's mind turns to pumpkin. It finds its way into more than just pie come harvest time.

"To me it's the perfect description of fall, especially in a baker's world," says Lynn Jean, manager of Victoria bakery Cakes Etc. "It brings back a lot of memories from when you were a kid."

Cakes Etc. turns scones and cheesecake into siblings of the traditional favourite pumpkin pie by adding spices such as ginger, nutmeg and cinnamon — and of course, pumpkin.

Because of pumpkin's wet texture, it can turn a cheesecake into a sloppy mess. To combat this, Jean and her bakers combine a plain cheesecake filling with the same mixture used for a pumpkin pie.

"We make a plain cheesecake and put it in the ring, fill half, then put in the pumpkin pie mix and swirl with your finger," says Jean. "You get this beautiful marble effect with the pumpkin. It will solidify and won't make it runny."

She uses an oatbar-like crust for cheesecakes, and makes the pumpkin pie filling from scratch.

"You want to have a baked cheesecake, and decorate with white chocolate curls, and through the curls, slices of cranberry and pumpkin seeds," Jean advises.

Cakes Etc. sells their signature dessert in slices and full cakes, with a 10-inch round cheesecake, fit for 14 to 18 people, priced at $44.75.

- Rosemary Westwood

A quest for orange gold

Matt Phillips, brewmaster for Phillips Brewing Company in Esquimalt, can barely contain his enthusiasm when talking about his most successful seasonal beer, the Crooked Tooth Pumpkin Ale.

"A pumpkin ale is a really neat experience to make," he explains.

While most beers have guidelines to restrict your creativity, creating a fusion beer — the term for a beer which is "fused" with a unique flavour — can be anything you want. A pumpkin ale could be thick, syrupy and drowning in pumpkin, or a bomb of overwhelming spices.

Only one shipment was made to local vendors. Phillips never expected that his beer would be overwhelmingly popular and sell out in four days.

Hoping to get a taste, Phillips suggested I try one retailer who may hold the coveted orange gold. Upon arrival I discovered an empty row where the pumpkin ale should be. The employee suggested I try another place, leading to a chain of three stores. They all wished me the best but left me empty handed.

My big break came when one employee claimed to have bought some at another store that day, and told me where to find it.

DEREK MANDEL PHOTO

I continued my trek through the gathering darkness. The rain pelted away at my already soaked layers, but my resilience and desire pushed me onwards into the night. Speed was of the utmost importance as I asked, "What if someone else got there first?"

I entered the store where a person at the till was buying a bottle of Crooked Tooth. As I reached the fridge, I saw the empty row for the fourth time. There was only one thing to do in this situation.

"Fuck!" I yelled.

Some heads cocked as I turned to leave the store. My disappointed stupor and fatigue from the adventure led me to trip over a nearby box. As I steadied myself, I noticed a stamp along the side of the box: Phillips Crooked Tooth. I was elated.

Everything about the pumpkin ale is smooth — except finding it. Unlike other pumpkin ales, which can taste of liquid nutmeg, this beer has balance between pumpkin and spices like ginger, nutmeg and cinnamon. Phillips merely crushes the spices, instead of grinding them, to reduce their overall influence.

"The Crooked Tooth was designed to be fairly balanced," says Phillips. "All of the flavors pronounce themselves in a sequential order."

The only downside is availability. Although the idea originally came from overwhelming requests through the brewery's website suggestion box, Phillips did not foresee the demand. However, he is currently taking marketing classes at UVic, so his demand projections should improve.

For anyone wishing to experience Crooked Tooth this Halloween, you're most likely out of luck. However, other local breweries are also producing pumpkin ales this Halloween season.

- Derek Mandel

JENNIFER ZHOU GRAPHIC

Dumpin' your pumpkin

This Halloween, don't contribute to the frightening 40 per cent of jack-o'-lanterns that end up in landfills.

Thrifty Foods is hosting the fourth annual Pumpkin Smash to relieve that post-Hallowe'en sugar high. From 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Nov. 3 at the Cloverdale store and on Nov. 4 at the Admirals Walk and Fairfield stores, kids and kids at heart can toss their pumkins into a compost bin.

There will also be talks by the Greater Victoria Compost Education Centre. Following the event, the pumpkin compost is bagged and sold by Thrifty's.

According to the Compost Education Centre, composting reduces the volume of garbage destined for the landfill and also improves soil, air and water quality.

- Charlotte Barrow

Halloween countdown

7

What: Paper Cranes Halloween show
Where: Evolution Nightclub
When: Oct. 25 @ 9 p.m.
How much: $5

Alex Grant

On a dreary Sunday afternoon, local indie band The Paper Cranes are carving 12 pumpkins in preparation for their Hallowen show.

While important observations regarding pumpkin carving as an art were made ("That 'A'-hole you cut looks really good"), the conversation drifted to their upcoming album, *Halcyon Days*, their growing success, and the band as a whole.

VICTORIA POTTER PHOTO

Ryan McCullagh will play an early Halloween show with his band The Paper Cranes.

Though singer-songwriter Ryan McCullagh claims he's "only become at all remotely able to play music within the past week," many would disagree. Victoria's The Zone 91.3 FM, who dubbed them Band of the Month, is promoting their upcoming show. Reviewers have given glowing reviews, comparing them to The Cure or Arcade Fire.

They have opened for acclaimed bands like Wolf Parade, We Are Scientists and more. All this kind of attention and press can easily go to an emerging band's head and often ruins the freshness and energy they bring to their music. Fortunately, that isn't the case with The Cranes.

"It doesn't matter if we make it big or not — we just want to do the music," bassist Mark Lavoie said.

Music is what the band is truly passionate about, and not just their own. They are huge advocates for other Canadian bands, such as Toronto's The Two Koreas. Like any emerging and thriving scene, a tight-knit and supportive community naturally develops.

"Canadian bands have just got it going on," said McCullagh. "We'd love to play with Arcade Fire ... and we really love Caribou. Most of my favourite bands are Canadian. I think it has to do with the musical traditions."

Their addictive, melancholy northern-soul rock is influenced by many genres of music, including classic rock, jazz, new wave, punk, '60s soul and most everything else under the sun. The Clash, The Jams, and The Smiths are cited as their major influences.

Halcyon Days is eagerly awaited by those who fell in love with their first self-titled EP. The first album was an immaculate finished piece, produced by Howard Redekopp, who has worked with the likes of Tegan and Sara as well as The New Pornographers.

How does *Halcyon Days* compare to the EP? "It's way, way better," McCullagh claimed.

"It's less clean," interjected McCullagh's wife and Cranes keyboardist, Miranda Roach-McCullagh. "It was recorded live off the floor in one weekend."

The rushed job doesn't detract from the quality of the music. Though more raw, the album has a beautifully intimate feel to it and there is not a single filler song of the 10 on the album.

Look out for this rising band and go enjoy an early Halloween.

6

What: P.E. Halloween Pub Crawl
Where: Steamers Pub, Element Nightclub and Plan B Nightclub
When: Oct. 26 @ 6:30 p.m.
How much: $10

Justin Carr

If you believe Halloween is just an excuse to drink in costume, then UVic's Physical Education Students Association (PESA) has just the thing for you.

PESA is hosting a Halloween Pub Crawl, so you can tour three downtown drinking hot spots en masse.

This year's pub crawl is promising to be a spooktacularly good time with appetizers, costumes, drinks and prizes.

The plan for this Halloween Pub Crawl is to have people meet in their costumes at Steamers Pub at 6:30 p.m. for appetizers and, of course, drinks.

Next, the group will walk over to Element Nightclub to enjoy some dancing and drink specials courtesy of pub crawl sponsor Molson Canadian.

Finally, they'll walk (or stumble) over as a group to Plan B Nightclub enjoy some more dancing, drinking and all the free condoms one needs for — well you know. Trojan Condoms is another sponsor of the crawl.

So, if you're a fan of appetizers, condoms, costumes, dancing, drinking and walking (who isn't?), then the PESA Halloween Pub Crawl will satisfy you.

Tickets are on sale in the foyer of the McKinnon Gym.

5

What: Skaryoke (Zombie Walk after-party)
Where: Soprano's Karaoke Bar
When: Oct. 27 @ 8:30 p.m.
How Much: $6, $5 with a costume

Roland George Rasmussen

Bobby (Boris) Pickett's question, "Have you been working in the lab late tonight?" is apt for this season of ghosts and goblins. Spooky mutants that creep from the lab or toxic waste dumps will be out in full force for the Zombie Walk. And an after-party at Soprano's will no doubt bring out their theme song.

Soprano's sponsored the walk, and at the start of the event (leaving from Centennial Square at 4 p.m.) brave volunteers will hand out gift certificates for the bar to hungry zombies over 19 years of age.

"It's a chunk of change off some chicken wings or something," said Paul Steele from Soprano's. What he doesn't know is it's always good to feed the zombies.

But there will be more than cheap chicken and off-key renditions of Halloween hits at the after-party. Local rockabilly band The Ball, Gag, and Chain Gang will headline the night.

Sean Brookes, the organizer of the Zombie Walk, said, "I don't know why there is a connection between rockabilly and zombies; they kind of adopted each other." Infected might be a better word.

RKO as well as Disaster and the Pet Parade will also play, if their limbs don't fall off.

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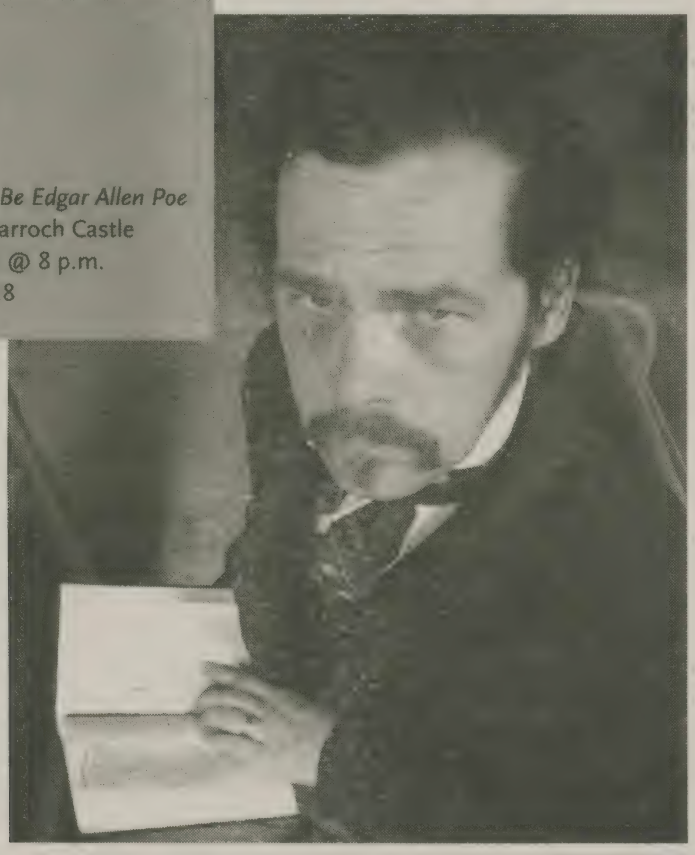
4

What: *I Might Be Edgar Allen Poe*
Where: Craigdarroch Castle
When: Oct. 28 @ 8 p.m.
How much: $18



PROVIDED PHOTO

David Radford stars as Joseph in *I Might Be Edgar Allen Poe* at Craigdarroch Castle.

Megan Welsh

Hosting a production that incorporates tales of therapy and carnivorous hamsters with classic macabre poetry — and still manages to pull on the heart-strings — Craigdarroch Castle is the backdrop for a mighty fine evening of theatre.

The mood is perfectly set, leaving the dark night behind as though stepping into another time, entering the former home of coal baron Robert Dunsmuir. Not quite sure what to do, the waiting crowd huddles in the main foyer until a man in faded pyjamas shuffles down the main staircase to welcome them to Oakbrook Mental Hospital.

That man is David Radford, in character as Joseph, the star of Dawson Nichols' play *I Might Be Edgar Allen Poe*. After a sold-out run last year, directors Ian Case and Tim Sutherland again adapt the Seattle playwright's solo show for a non-seated, interactive and multi-character performance that takes viewers through the rooms of the mansion and into the character's mind.

"When both Mike [co-producer Michael Delamont] and I knew we wanted to do this show, Iguana [Productions] needed a new Halloween project. It seemed a perfect fit," said Case in a press release.

Portraying a young man who believes that he is the infamous American poet reincarnated, Radford plays his character to perfection. His monologues give the air of a personal conversation and his passionate recitations of Poe's works, integrated with the plot, will claim the attention of even the most distracted viewer.

Committed to a mental institution for an incident referred to only as "the fire," Joseph leads viewers through his story, even directly communicating with them, as he interacts with other patients and his uptight and inexperienced therapist, Dr. Fuco (Christina Patterson). In discovering why Joseph has become so fixated on death, the audience is privy to an emotional and believable story.

Is typical Halloween gore-fest entertainment getting you down? Would you prefer one man's surprisingly funny, intelligent and introspective look at death? Look no further — this play is worth the time and effort, with the added bonus of exploring a local landmark with a rich and colourful history.

Emily Agopsowicz

Prepare to be offended when UK-based macabre cabaret trio the Tiger Lillies bring their bizarre sound to Victoria.

With grease-painted faces and eccentric costumes, the Tiger Lillies bring to life a deliciously dark world. That is, if you can stomach such subjects as prostitution, sodomy, bestiality and infant abuse enthusiastically sung about in shrill falsetto by lead singer and accordionist, Martyn Jacques.

In a phone interview, Jacques sounded at ease from his hotel room in Athens, Greece.

"We're a bit more popular in European countries — actually more popular in Greece," said Jacques. "I don't know. They don't speak as much English. They don't get the words. And we can be quite hardcore I suppose."

Soft-spoken with a charming British accent, it's easy to forget that Jacques is the same man who sings that he wants to "kill you" because "everyone needs someone to hate."

"We offend in America, Australia and New Zealand. We upset people in England too," said Jacques. He identified the offended as "older and conservative people who like older and conservative types of music."

But there are exceptions. "A young girl in Edinburgh, about 20, she was sort of heckling me, so I went up to her and grabbed her knee and said, 'Shut the fuck up,'" said Jacques. "Next thing, she was on the stage berating the audience for finding this sort of thing funny. Then she burst into tears and ran out."

Described as Brechtian punk cabaret, the Tiger Lillies have been shocking audiences worldwide since the band was formed in 1989.

"I always wanted to try something original and unique. I lived most of my 20s with a puzzled expression on my face," said Jacques.

At 29, he found his unique sound when he bought an accordion on a whim. "I thought, 'I'll sing in a high voice and play accordion.' That gave me the instant signature I wanted," said Jacques.

"The whole punk cabaret thing became fashionable in sort of an underground way, so I think I was either lucky, or ahead of my time," said Jacques.

Today, the trio enjoy a worldwide cult following including celebrity fans such as Alex Krapanos of Franz Ferdinand, rocker Marilyn Manson and Simpsons creator Matt Groening. But he warned, that "if you play for popularity it becomes more of a game, and it can be disastrous when you go out of fashion."

If you aren't easily offended you may find yourself among the ranks of what Jacques calls his "free spirited, anarchical, free thinking fans."

"We play for people who are open-minded and have a sense of humour about life," said Jacques. "Then again, sometimes the people who are offended are people who are quite intelligent. They call us fat, middle-aged men with an inane sense of humor, and maybe they're right."

3

What: Tiger Lillies Misery Guts Tour
Where: The Metro
When: Oct. 29 @ 8 p.m.
Tickets: $26/$22 students

But it's not all blood and gore. Accompanying their often simplistic vulgar lyrics is a haunting, quirky instrumental sound. The unique collection of instruments includes Jacques' signature custom-made piano accordion, a removable neck bass and musical saw played by Adrian Stout and various recycled toys, drums and cymbals played by Adrian Huge. Jacques lists 3 Penny Opera and Jacques Braille as theatrical influences.

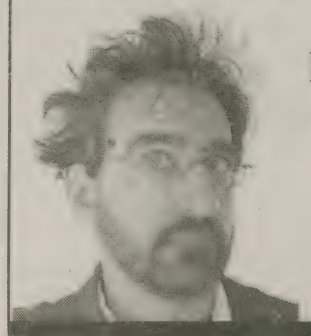
"I enjoy giving people something interesting to watch rather than just music. I use words to interest, move and provoke people," he said.

Despite a small turnout at their last performance in Victoria several years ago, Jacques looks forward to a return visit. "We're very grateful to be playing in Victoria. We enjoyed playing in the old theatre there; it was quite unusual. And the people who invited us were quite hospitable."

Jacques admitted the gimmicky quality of playing close to Halloween. "You know, we wear makeup, maybe look quite sinister, I suppose a kind of gothic quality in what we do ... People go, 'Oh they're dressed up for a Halloween show!' We look like this all the time, but [booking agents] sell it. It shifts a few tickets, and I'm not complaining about that."

See Halloween events, p. 14

Having a bad hair day, on campus?



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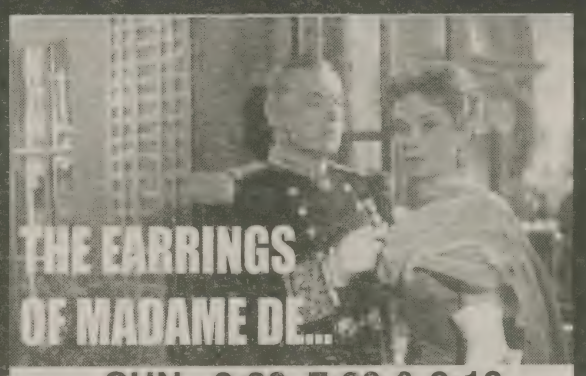

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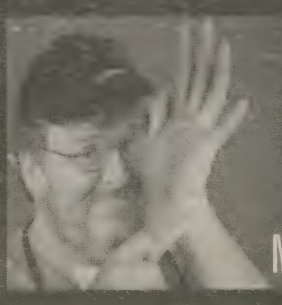

MON 7:00 & 9:30

Continued from p. 13

Halloween events for every day of the week

Samantha Magnus

Victoria has many creepy corners: down dark alleys behind Bastion Square, under the Empress Hotel's chandeliers and around the oaks whose branches grip the Ross Bay Cemetery with their twisted shadows.

The Cornerstone Café will join the list when local mystery authors Stanley Evans, Kay Stewart, Chris Bullock and Ron Chudley read from their latest scary novels for the Mystery Night Reading.

What: Mystery Night Reading
Where: The Cornerstone Café
When: Oct. 30 @ 7 p.m.
How much: Free

Their publisher, TouchWood Editions, has taken "a creative approach," expanding their history and biography focus to include spooky new titles such as Chudley's *Stolen*, about the suspicious disappearance of a boy in the Fraser Canyon, and Evans' *Seaweed Under Water*, the third of a crime series.

Evans' first mystery stories featured policeman Sergeant Decker on the Western frontier, but Evan traded him in for the street-wise Coast Salish cop Silas Seaweed. Evans' melding of crime writing with native mythology, inspired by living with First Nations in Northern B.C., is now a hit with critics. But it was a tough sell originally, with the first book in the series getting turned down by 30 publishers before finally being accepted by Victoria-based TouchWood.

Frances Thorsen, owner of Chronicles of Crime bookstore on Antique Row, isn't surprised TouchWood published the series, which she sells in her store.

"When it's local, people want to read it," said Thorsen."Victoria is a major book-reading town."

Where will Seaweed be next? "In the Campbell River area," Evans answered in a voice hoarse with a cold from a recent research trip.

Stewart's book *A Deadly Little List* also draws in readers with a local element. It begins with a suspicious suicide on Salt Spring Island.

Stewart co-authored her book with her husband, a process she described as like "running a business together or raising children together ... more often a source of pleasure." Each had their own main character in the joint plot outline.

Time allowing, Stewart promises to read from the upcoming sequel *The Sitting Lady Sutra*. Books will be available at the event.

What: Cheesecake Halloween Extravaganza
Where: Lucky Bar
When: Oct. 31 @ 8 p.m.
How Much: $15

PHOTO COURTESY OF SARAH KRAMER

Clockwise from top left: Rosie Bitts, Kitten Kaboodle, Champagne Sparkles, Fawn Fatale, Ricky Hard

Kimberly Bruce

Satisfy your naughty side with a taste of The Cheesecake Burlesque Review's (CBR) second annual Halloween Extravaganza. This hit dance troupe puts on an early show, so there will be plenty of time to get into trouble afterwards.

Last year's highlights included a mummy striptease and a shedding snakeskin act, according to Champagne Sparkles, one of the CBR's founding members. She said a focus on group acts makes the CBR stand out from other burlesque troupes. Last year they performed a sexy version of "Thriller" and "Shake Seniora" from Beetlejuice. This year there are three surprise group numbers.

"And a finale to knock your socks off," said Sparkles.

For those brave enough, the show will include a dance competition with prizes for the best female and male dancers. The audience loves to participate on Halloween — it seems more natural for people to get up on stage when they are in costume, said Sparkles.

"It's a chance to get on stage and shake your thing a little," said Sparkles.

The CBR encompasses all kinds of dance and performance, from stand-up comedy to striptease. Sparkles said they are influenced by workshops with other dancers and other dance styles, such as belly dancing, European cabaret and Asian fan dances. These combine to form something unique.

Their audiences span all age groups, and there's usually something for everyone. Sparkles' grandparents have even attended a performance.

"It's always tasteful and it's always kinky," Sparkles said.

She sees Halloween as a chance for people to let loose and express themselves through costuming. A person can explore a different time period or theme while being creative.

"I'm lucky because I get to dress up all the time," she said.

Sparkles' favourite Halloween costume was a very fishy mermaid, which later became the inspiration for a performance costume. Her mummy striptease started as a Halloween costume from years before. The CBR designs all their own costumes — they often start with lingerie pieces and add glitter and feathers.

Many people enjoy burlesque because they can relate to the people performing, said Sparkles. All the dancers vary in age, size and shape; each has a different style of performance. The women work collectively to enhance their personas. Sparkles considers herself on the more cheeky and cute side of things, but some of the women are dark and gothic.

"None of us are classic anything. We are not a homogeneous group of women ... like some mainstream burlesque," said Sparkles.

What started as a burlesque birthday workshop has turned into a serious hobby for these women, requiring a commitment of between four and 12 hours a week. With one set of group choreography they began performing at friends' events, and became the CBR about a year and a half ago.

This is a labour of love — whatever money the troupe makes from performing they try to put back into their show. This year they will perform in the Vancouver International Burlesque Competition, and have high hopes of winning and making it to the Miss Exotic World Competition in Las Vegas.

ASK MISS MARTLET

Have a little fun this Halloween season

Danielle Pope

Dear Miss Martlet:

Every year around this time I start to feel resentment toward all the Halloween fuss. I miss the old days of trick-or-treating, but find the parties now to be pointless. Why bother celebrating Halloween if you aren't an eight-year-old? Am I just being a Halloween grinch?

- Not Into It

Dear Not:

You might be a Halloween grinch — but the good news is your costume is easy: just grab a Santa hat, a little green makeup and tuck a jack-o'-lantern under your arm.

Jokes aside, you're not alone. Resenting Halloween after leaving those days of doorbell ringing is a pretty common occurrence. (Who wouldn't miss getting a pillowcase packed with candy in a single night?)

Halloween being pointless, however, is another matter entirely. While children have long since been associated with trick-or-treating, the day is hardly childish.

Halloween originated in Ireland about 2,000 years ago on Nov. 1, when the Celts celebrated their end-of-summer harvest. Human death was also common around this time, so they believed the worlds between the dead and the living became blurred. Prophecies, bonfires and sacrifices were made.

Now, Halloween is celebrated all over the world, with a huge range of traditions that can be viewed at PumpkinPatchesAndMore.com. In Austria people leave bread, water and a lit lamp for magical souls returning to the Earth. In China, people leave similar items in front of photos of dead family members in hopes that their spirits are freed from the earth to journey to heaven. In England, people carve "punkies" out of beets and place them on gateposts to protect houses from wandering spirits. They also light bonfires for fun and fortune telling. In Germany, people put away knives so as not to risk harm to returning souls. In Korea it's viewed as a time to visit family tombs and thank ancestors for their labour. In Sweden people take the day off as a holiday.

If you're happy enough ignoring those black and orange streamers floating everywhere this time of year, you're all set. But if your resentment is from feeling left out, the trick here may be redefining the day.

Pick a new tradition, or revamp a few old ones. You might think you're too old for trick-or-treating, but how about trick-or-eating? Every Halloween the UVic Meal Exchange Club asks people to hit the streets of Victoria (costumed or not) to collect not candy, but canned food. Details can be found at MealExchange.com or by visiting the UVic Students' Society office.

You could also try hosting your own Halloween event (a sure way to enjoy the activities). Invite a few friends over for a zombie movie fest, pumpkin-carving contest, cookie-baking frenzy, video game night, sewing party or even a game of capture the flag — and have everyone arrive fully costumed. Potluck dinners can be equally fun, especially with the haunted theme.

If you're still not sold on the party idea, don't forget Halloween is the one day a year you don't have to be yourself — so make it fun. Give yourself a secret identity then answer the phone as Dracula all day. If you're still not into All Hallows Eve, it's time to give yourself permission to just bow out of the day and wait until you have kids to get all festive again.

But while you're waiting, pick up a copy of *It's the Great Pumpkin, Charlie Brown* — a sure bet to keep your "spirits" up.

JENNIFER ZHOU GRAPHIC

Got a problem, question or concern? Let Miss Martlet do the investigating for you. Send your queries to missmartlet@martlet.ca.

Gargoyles claims Butler Book Prize

Kim Magi

On Oct. 17, UVic professor and author Bill Gaston won the fourth annual Butler Book Prize for his fiction work, *Gargoyles*.

The annual award, sponsored by Brian H. Butler of Butler Brothers Supplies, is given to a Victoria author for the best book published in poetry, non-fiction, children's books, fiction or biography.

Gaston moved to Victoria from the East Coast nine years ago. "I've finally 'arrived' as a West Coast writer — a Victorian writer," said Gaston. "It makes me feel welcome."

Another reason the prize is so important to Gaston is because there are "so many fine writers" in the area. "I don't think I'm exaggerating when I say that probably half of Canada's best poets live in the Victoria area," said Gaston. "So it's an honour to have my book chosen from this pool of talent."

Included with the award was $5,000, which Gaston said he has split among his family.

"I'm going to go buy some clothes," said Gaston. "Something I haven't done in years and years, as anyone who has seen me recently can attest to."

Gaston doesn't recommend his books to his students, as he finds it embarrassing.

"But it is a pretty good idea that they [read them]," said the author, "if only to check out what kind of boring pedant, or excitable lunatic, might be grading them."

Gargoyles, a collection of short stories, was also a finalist for the Governor General's Literary Award and the Ethel Wilson Fiction Prize. His next book, *The Order of Good Cheer*, is what Gaston calls his "most ambitious" project yet. The story, due out next fall, is split between 1607 Nova Scotia and present-day Prince Rupert.

"The story leaps that 400-year gap, back and forth, in a dizzying kind of way," said Gaston. "The two halves are joined by a moose nose, sturgeon, a big party and lots of really good wine."

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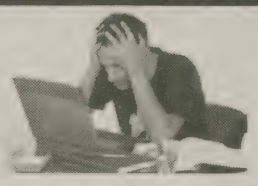

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Sweatshop Union defies hip-hop stereotype

Amanda Smith

Sweatshop Union is more than just baggy pants and hip-hop — they're good too.

The Canadian hip-hop group played at Sugar Nightclub on Oct. 20, and had the packed club pulsating. No one was having more fun than the group members themselves.

Sweatshop will shatter any expectations of the average arrogant rapper whose lyrics consist of violence, misogyny and rampant indulgence. They lean toward a politically observant and socially mindful lyrical style, but is soulful and entertaining above all. The choice to veer away from mainstream avenues in pop music may not be the most financially rewarding one, but the band is finding there may be better rewards to taking the road less traveled.

Touring with acts such as the Black Eyed Peas and Swollen Members, they've seen their fair share of success. It's helped them find their comfort zone when it comes to balancing career and art.

"We're over trying to please people," said group member Metty the DertMerchant. They don't envy the success of chart-topping pop acts because, according to the band, giving in to the demands of the mainstream does not yield good music. They've hit their stride in their latest album, *United We Fall*, because they did it their way. Having finished their three-album contract with Battleaxe Records, they seem confident with the evolution of the group and with new manager Kyle Kraft.

PROVIDED PHOTO

Sweatshop Union doesn't look or sound like your typical hip-hop band.

Sweatshop Union has a communal approach that lets members rotate according to personal interests, circumstances, collaborations and solo projects. The result is a directional ebb and flow that allows differences and similarities to thrive.

It would be wrong to call Sweatshop Union an advocacy group on a mission. Their goal is to make honest music, which sometimes entails social commentary.

Sweatshop Union has incredible stage presence that grabs the audience and doesn't let go. By having fun and making it look easy, they wrung every ounce of available chemistry from the fans on Oct. 20, and while Sweatshop Union may be through trying to please people, that didn't stop the crowd from seeming thrilled by their efforts.

Final Fantasy is sure to satisfy growing fan base

Kevin Ehman

One wo ıld be hard-pressed to find a musician more revered among his fans than Owen Pallett, also known as Final Fantasy.

Between his solo work and the string arrangements he has provided for the likes of Arcade Fire and Beirut, Pallett has garnered high critical acclaim while simultaneously building a fervently devoted fan base.

Pallett was also the winner of the inaugural Polaris Music Prize (an award for Canada's top album of the year based on artistic merit) for his 2006 album *He Poos Clouds*.

Pallett's Oct. 21 concert at Victoria's Alex Goolden Hall illustrated the extent of Pallett idolization, with the diverse crowd hanging on every word and note.

Alex Goolden Hall is the perfect venue for a Final Fantasy show. The former church's high ceilings and seating arrangement provide flawless resonance throughout the room, and the aesthetic is tailor-made for Pallet's sound. Playing an hour-long set weighted slightly toward material from his first album *Has a Good Home*, Pallet drove straight for the audience's heart.

People could be seen giving that eyes-closed, half-smile nod of total satisfaction. Complemented by a simple yet clever overhead light show provided by artist Stephanie Comilang, Pallett kept the performance intense and the between-song banter playful and witty.

Watching Pallett perform is highly impressive — the man is obscenely talented. While operating about six different pedals to loop and sequence his violin, vocals and piano (the piano being "a fun and easy instrument compared to this tricky violin"), Pallett also has an extremely strong live voice. There is absolutely nothing lost from his recordings to his live show — a feat to which few musicians can lay claim.

Highlight songs include "(This is) The Dream of Win & Regine," "The CN Tower Belongs to the Dead," and the extended version of the sweeping encore closer, "Better Than Worse." Notably missing from his set was the string-plucking ballad "Your Light is Spent."

Final Fantasy is a soundtrack for joy, love, change and heartbreak. As the night drew to a close and I watched two lovers enjoy the show in each other's arms, I heard a part of "Took You Two Years to Win My Heart" repeat in my head: "They say heartbreak is good for the skin, but all that it's helped is my drinking."

At least I have Pallett's catalogue of work and the experience of this show to keep me company throughout the long winter.

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GUY VETRIE
GAME ONE

Bears bite Vikes

Max Sussman

Fourth-year forward Tyler Haas had an awesome night for the Vikes, but it wasn't enough.

The University of Alberta Golden Bears handed the UVic Vikes basketball team a 60-52 loss on Oct. 19. The game was on the opening night of UVic's annual Guy Vetrie tournament in the McKinnon Gym.

Haas turned in a valiant overall effort, filling up the state sheet with 16 points and 8 rebounds. He also spearheaded a quick 7-1 run with four minutes left, capped by a steal and a breakaway lay-up that would be UVic's final points of the game. And Haas came through on defence — he and third-year guard Cyril Indome had three steals and one blocked shot each.

But UVic coach Craig Beaucamp wants more out of Haas.

"He knows what it takes to play in a championship game," he said. "We need him to be a little bit more steady, a little bit more consistent."

On a team with seven players in their first and second years, Haas's experience and performance may dictate how well the Vikes do.

Having lost their five leading scorers from last season, the Vikes struggled all game to put the ball in the hole. They shot a dismal 34.5 per cent from the field and only 5.6 per cent from beyond the arc.

"At this point in the year, we're very much a work in progress," said Vikes coach Craig Beaucamp. "We have to establish an identity."

The bright spot for the Vikes was their on-ball defence. Forcing 22 turnovers kept UVic in the game.

"We only gave up 60 points, and most times you're going to win those games," said Beaucamp.

After struggling for most of the first quarter, the Vikes were able to go on a run and tie the game at 28 going into the half. The Vikes also treated possession like it grew on trees, giving the ball away 17 times. On most of those, it wasn't a matter of good Golden Bear defence, but a matter of UVic's carelessness.

Fifth-year Bears guard Alex Steele carried his team in the victory, scoring 12 points and 8 assists.

GUY VETRIE | GAME TWO

Brandon game déjà vu for UVic

Gavin Day

You could call it a grudge match for the UVic Vikes. The last time UVic met the Brandon University Bobcats was March 3, when the Bobcats spanked UVic 93-79 in the Canada West semifinal.

But on Oct. 20, the Vikes men's basketball team lost to the Bobcats 77-66 in their second match of the Guy Vetrie tournament.

The games were mirror images of each other. In March, a first-half collapse saw the Vikes down by 22 at halftime before shaping up a bit in the second half. On Oct. 20, everything fell apart in the second half.

UVic's youth surfaced in the third quarter and Brandon capitalized.

The Vikes looked full of life early. They took a quick lead and held it until there were just under two minutes left in the quarter, when Brandon went up 21-18.

Rookie guard Ryan MacKinnon led the Vikes off the bench in the first quarter with six points and four rebounds. Neither team could pull away in the second quarter. The teams were tied at 39 heading into the locker room.

"Ryan MacKinnon really stepped up for us, especially in the first half," said Vikes coach Craig Beaucamp.

But Brandon came out fired up in the third quarter and the Vikes had no answer. The Bobcats outscored UVic 27-8 and the Vikes hit only 20 per cent of their shots.

Fourth-year Vikes forward Haas landed awkwardly on his elbow after a hard foul. "I landed with my arm straight and it just snapped," he said. However, he was back playing the following night,

Haas said his team needs to learn something from their poor third-quarter performance. "We're a young team," he said. "We've got to learn that a team's going to make a run and we've got to play harder when they do."

The Vikes rallied in the fourth quarter to make the game a little more respectable, outscoring the Bobcats 19-11 to bring the final tally within 11 points. Fourth-year forward Mitch Gudgeon led the way with 20 points in the losing effort.

GUY VETRIE | GAME THREE

Defending champs roll over young Victoria squad

Max Sussman

The Oct. 21 conclusion of the Guy Vetrie tournament was much of the same for UVic.

The Vikes were once again solid on defence and woeful on offence as they fell 72-55 to the five-time defending Canadian Interuniversity Sport (CIS) champions, the Carleton Ravens.

Fifth-year Carleton forward Daron Leonard guided the Ravens with 13 points, including nine during a 12-2 run that put the Ravens solidly in front of the Vikes.

Ravens forward Aaron Doornekamp was the driving force behind the victory. With 12 points, eight assists and six rebounds, the ubiquitous six-foot-seven forward dominated the Vikes all game long.

"We wanted him to bounce the ball, because he shoots the ball pretty well," said Vikes coach Craig Beaucamp, who called Doornekamp a lock for Canada's national basketball team.

The Vikes failed to mount any consistent offence against a Ravens defence that spent the majority of the game in the penalty. UVic shot just 34 per cent from the field.

Mitch Gudgeon topped the Vikes with 12 points, while Tyler Haas was the only other player in double digits with 11. Haas appeared to be favouring his right leg much of the game, but Beaucamp attributed it to the fact that Haas played at least 30 minutes on three consecutive days.

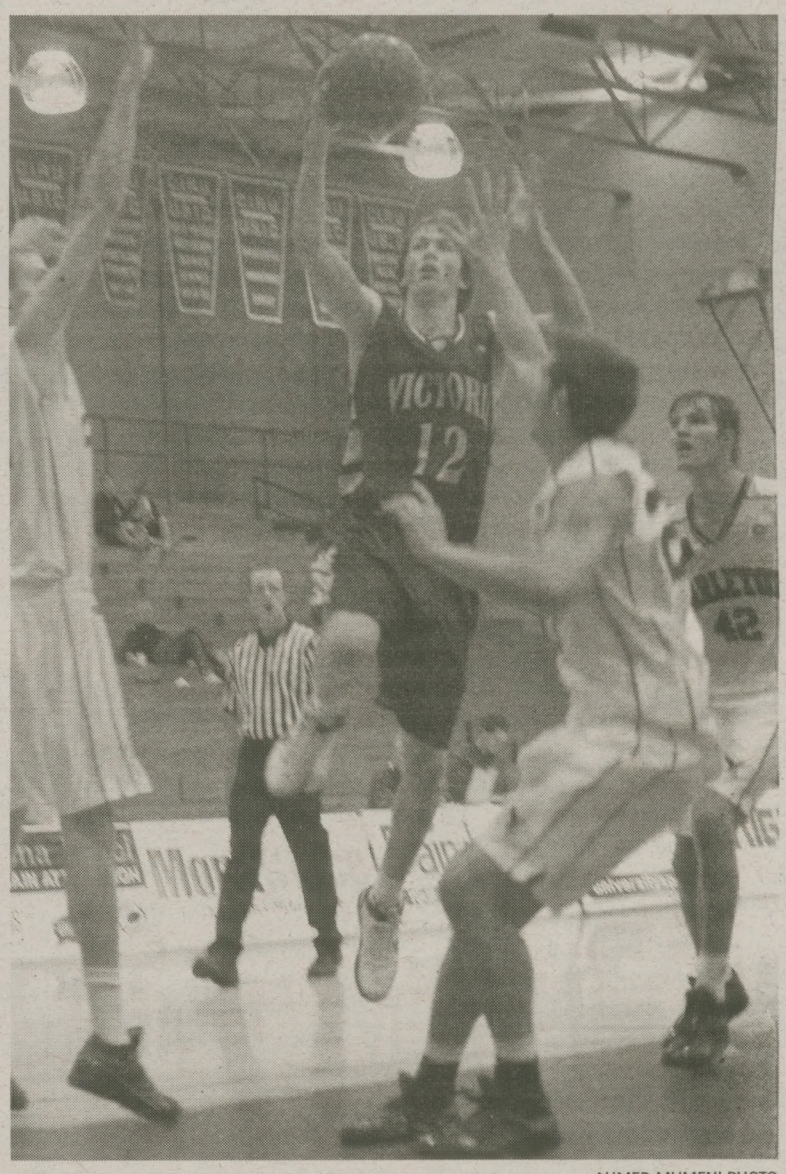
Despite the winless weekend and what is now a five-game losing streak, Beaucamp remains optimistic. After finishing the first quarter with a 19-15 lead, the Vikes seemed to falter as a team. But Beaucamp attributed this to the tournament's grueling schedule.

"We were fatigued — that's definitely a factor," he said.

Beaucamp also pointed out that they were up against the top team in the nation and that the Vikes have seven players in their first or second year.

"We're not about moral victories, because it's about winning," said Beaucamp. "But we're slowly but surely learning how to compete, and we're slowly but surely becoming a better team."

The Vikes hit the hardwood in McKinnon Gym again on Oct. 26 when they face off against the Simon Fraser University Clan. The Trinity Western University Spartans visit UVic on Oct. 27.



AHMED MUMENI PHOTO

Ryan MacKinnon blasts past the Carleton Ravens on his way to the net.

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James Bay snaps UVic's undefeated start

Andrew Smith

A team of second-string UVic players almost defeated what is now the best team on Vancouver Island.

The Vikes men's rugby team saw their undefeated streak end on Oct. 20 when James Bay defeated them 26-24. With the win, James Bay pulls to first in the Vancouver Island Rugby Union. Both teams had 3-0 records before the game.

UVic was missing 14 of their players who had been called up for Canada U-20 tryouts in Shawinigan Lake. While the absences gave some reserve players the opportunity to experience playing for UVic's top team, it also meant the team was missing some key players, including scrum half Jamie Mackenzie and kicker Ty Shannon.

The opening minutes of the game saw James Bay pummeling a frazzled UVic defensive line. A try was quickly scored by Hugo Bellanger, putting James Bay up 7-0 after the conversion.

After the opening minutes, the game was more even with both sides preferring to kick inside their own halves rather than running the attack. Neither side was able to recover many of their kicks, which slowed the pace down as the ball was played from full back to opposing full back.

The Vikes back line was not the composed side that had crushed UBC and Cowichan in previous weeks. A number of balls hit the deck with hospital passes resulting in crushing tackles by a quick James Bay offense.

Gordie Sawyers scored first for the Vikes but UVic missed the conversion. Poor handling and unforced errors allowed a speedy James Bay offence to capitalize on the Vikes mistakes.

Two James Bay tries with a conversion seemed to sink the Vikes as halftime approached. After the first 40 minutes, James Bay was in the lead with a convincing 19-5 score.

But the second half was a completely different story. A cool and collected Vikes defence held off an onslaught of James Bay attacks. UVic head coach Doug Tate commented that his team's tackling "was the best it's been all year." A number of set plays by James Bay were held off by the now seemingly impenetrable Vikes line.

The back line stepped up and completed their own string of tries from runs deep in their own half. Plays were pieced together and UVic began to climb out of the 14 point deficit they had faced at halftime.

Doug Matthews' blistering speed saw a last minute try for UVic bringing them within two points. But just as the Vikes were finding their composure late in the game, time ran out and James Bay walked away with the two-point victory.

Even though they didn't manage to come away with the win, the young Vikes proved that they have the ability to play. Tate said the game showed the depth and size of the player pool UVic has to pick from.

Up next, the Vikes take on the Castaway Wanderers at Wallace Field on Oct. 27.

ANDREW SMITH PHOTO

UVic (right) and James Bay go head-to-head in a lineout on Oct. 20.

SPORTS SHORTS

Bunnies delay start of soccer game

A little problem popped up at Centennial Stadium on Oct. 20, delaying a women's soccer match between UVic and Manitoba.

Five minutes before kickoff a rabbit surfaced from a hole in one of the goals. When a maintenance crew checked it out, they discovered eight newborn rabbits in the hole. Workers removed the rabbits and quickly patched up the hole so the game could start.

UVic defeated number-one ranked Manitoba 1-0. The rabbits were taken to hospital and euthanized.

- files from Mike Tucker

VIKES SCOREBOARD

MEN'S BASKETBALL
Oct. 19 Alberta 60 Vikes 52
Oct. 20 Brandon 77 Vikes 66
Oct. 21 Carleton 72 Vikes 55

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL
Oct. 19 Vikes 83 Brock 78
Oct. 20 Vikes 70 York 68
Oct. 21 Toronto 68 Vikes 62

WOMEN'S FIELD HOCKEY
Oct. 20 Vikes 5 Calgary 1
Oct. 21 Calgary 2 Vikes 1

MEN'S FIELD HOCKEY
Oct. 21 Burnaby 3 Vikes 2

WOMEN'S RUGBY
Oct. 19 Alberta 34 Vikes 10
Oct. 21 UBC 39 Vikes 3

MEN'S RUGBY
Oct. 20 James Bay 26 Vikes 24

MEN'S SOCCER
Oct. 19 Vikes 2 Fraser Valley 1
Oct. 20 Vikes 0 TWU 0

WOMEN'S SOCCER
Oct. 19 Vikes 1 Manitoba 0
Oct. 20 Vikes 9 Regina 0

UPCOMING GAMES

MEN'S BASKETBALL
Vikes vs. Simon Fraser
McKinnon Gym
Oct. 26 @ 8 p.m.

Vikes vs. Trinity Western
McKinnon Gym
Oct. 27 @ 8 p.m.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL
Vikes vs. Simon Fraser
McKinnon Gym
Oct. 26 @ 6 p.m.

Vikes vs. Trinity Western
McKinnon Gym
Oct. 27 @ 6 p.m.

MEN'S RUGBY
Vikes vs. Castaway RFC
Wallace Field
Oct. 27 @ 3 p.m.

WOMEN'S SOCCER
Vikes vs. Alberta
Cenntenial Stadium
Oct. 27 @ 12 p.m.

Vikes vs. Saskatchewan
Centennial Stadium
Oct. 28 @ 12 p.m.

MEN'S SOCCER
Vikes vs. Alberta
Centennial Stadium
Oct. 27 @ 2:15 p.m.

Vikes vs. Saskatchewan
Centennial Stadium
Oct. 28@ 2:15 p.m.

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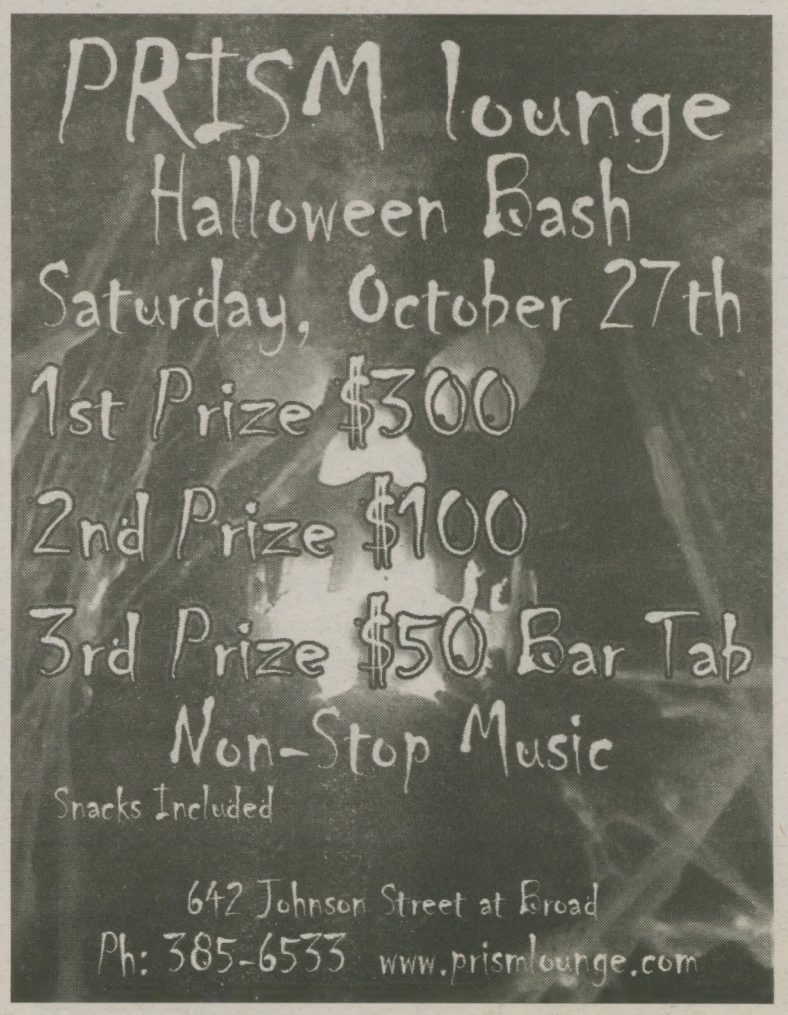
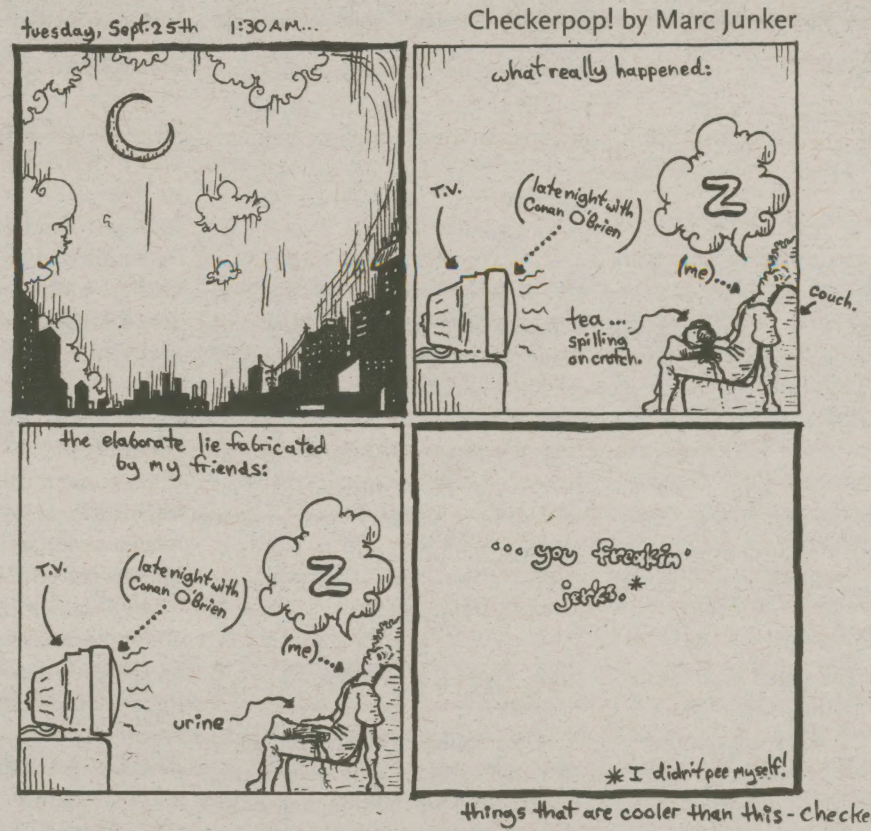
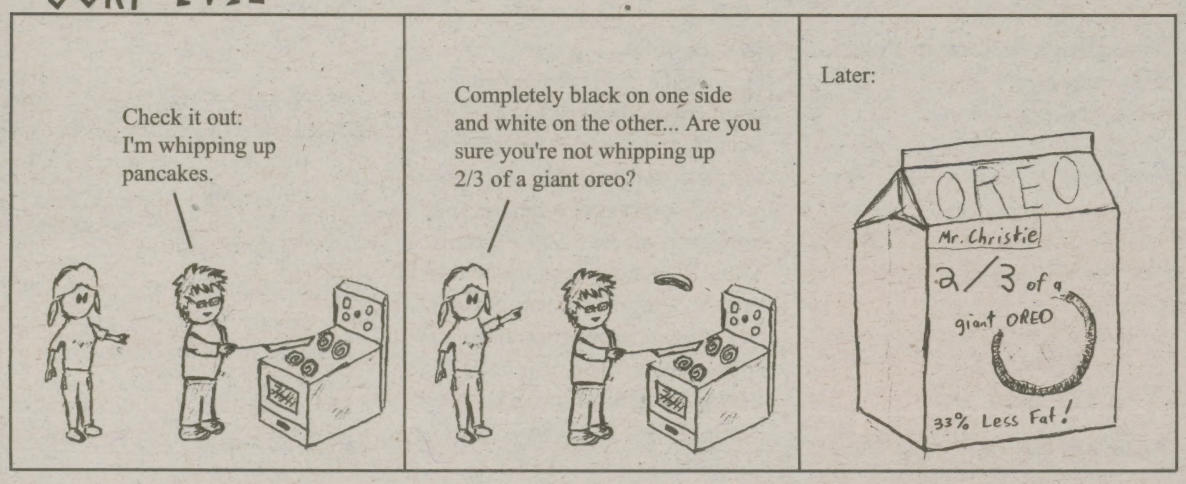


MeiCom

Checkerpop! by Marc Junker



CORP EVIL by Gord Duff


Check it out: I'm whipping up pancakes.
Completely black on one side and white on the other... Are you sure you're not whipping up 2/3 of a giant oreo?
Later:
OREO
Mr. Christie
2/3 of a giant OREO
33% Less Fat!

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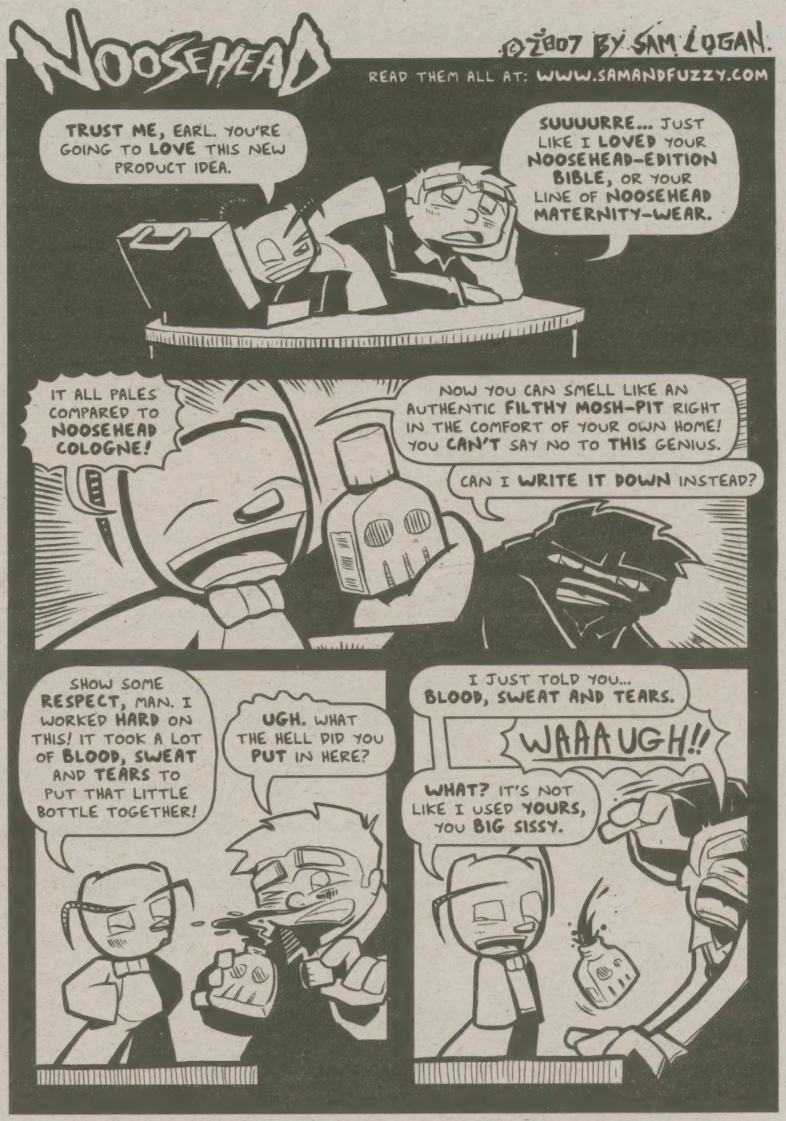

TRUST ME, EARL. YOU'RE GOING TO LOVE THIS NEW PRODUCT IDEA.
SUUUURRE... JUST LIKE I LOVED YOUR NOOSEHEAD-EDITION BIBLE, OR YOUR LINE OF NOOSEHEAD MATERNITY-WEAR.
IT ALL PALES COMPARED TO NOOSEHEAD COLOGNE!
NOW YOU CAN SMELL LIKE AN AUTHENTIC FILTHY MOSH-PIT RIGHT IN THE COMFORT OF YOUR OWN HOME! YOU CAN'T SAY NO TO THIS GENIUS.
CAN I WRITE IT DOWN INSTEAD?
SHOW SOME RESPECT, MAN. I WORKED HARD ON THIS! IT TOOK A LOT OF BLOOD, SWEAT AND TEARS TO PUT THAT LITTLE BOTTLE TOGETHER!
UGH. WHAT THE HELL DID YOU PUT IN HERE?
I JUST TOLD YOU... BLOOD, SWEAT AND TEARS.
WAAAUGH!!
WHAT? IT'S NOT LIKE I USED YOURS, YOU BIG SISSY.

LOUIE GRENOUILLE BY, ELLIOTT DICKSON

WE'VE BEEN WORRIED ABOUT YOU, LOUIE.
WHY?
WE THINK ALL THESE VIDEO GAMES HAVE TAKEN A TOLL ON YOUR SENSE OF REALITY.
COMBO x3
AT LEAST I DONT GO IMPOSING MY UNSOLICITED VALUES ON OTHER PEOPLE.
WELL, AT LEAST MY SPERM COUNT IS EQUIVALENT TO YOUR HIGH SCORE.
KUNGPHEW
E. DICKSON '07

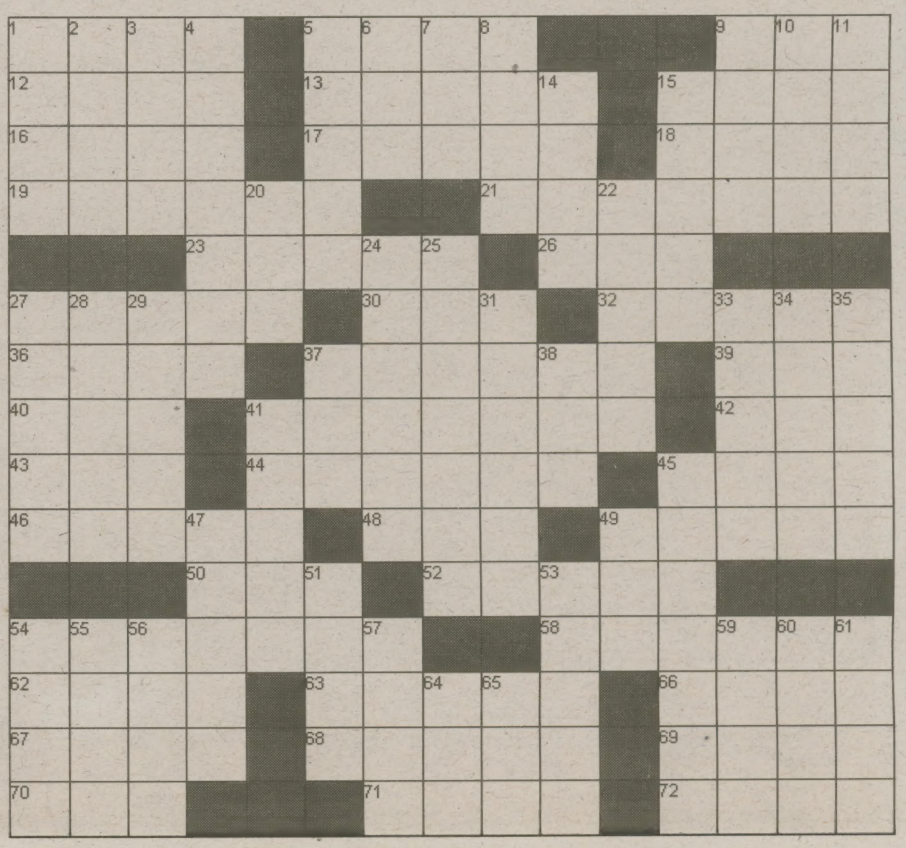
The Ontarion Crossword by Krystian Imgrum (CUP)

Across

1 Strike breaker
5 Landscapes
9 Famous doctor
12 Olympic athlete Lipinski
13 Confederate
15 Top out
16 Distant
17 Sherpa's land
18 Be indolent
19 Like some Christians
21 Pants style
23 Comedian's comments
26 Marksman org.
27 Speak volubly
30 Dem. dissident
32 Author Douglas
36 Fibber's story
37 Evergreen stand
39 Raise a YKK
40 Close
41 Takes Valium
42 Employ
43 Summer drink
44 Deplorable soul
45 Strange ____
46 Hindu belief
48 Bar fly
49 Mocks
50 Be human
52 Ward off
54 Mythic equine
58 Glossy paint
62 Turn off
63 Kindergarten tenet
66 Walk-the-dog toy (hyph.)
67 ____ up
68 Loom
69 Dice roll
70 40 across addition
71 Takes the plunge
72 He loved Lucy

Down

1 Student's reward
2 Paris eatery
3 Desert dweller
4 Extravagant
5 Certain Muslim
6 Greenback
7 Part favourite
8 Now, to Meredith Grey
9 John precursor
10 Shear off
11 Made out
14 Joie de vivre
15 Entreaty
20 Routine, to some
22 Seeks atonement
24 Esteems
25 Capitol person
27 Dinner order
28 WWF mascot
29 Septuagenarian, to a sexagenarian
31 Woman's size
33 Atmospheric colour
34 Cantankerous fellow
35 Took the autobahn
37 Allocation word
38 Cartoon Chihuahua
41 Dermis wounds
45 Ceased
47 Chicken and pork
49 Actress Garner, to friends
51 Deteriorate
53 Equals
54 Near (pr.)
55 CEO
56 Pay alms
57 Present
59 Stir
60 ...____ were bigger than...
61 Actress Anderson
64 Wonder
65 Cincinnati athlete



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Hey UVic! The Patch is coming to the SUB Building! Update your fall wardrobe. Choose from thousands of sweaters, coats, pants, vintage dresses and tops, and other funky one-of-a-kind things. October 29 to November 2. Michele Pujol room. See you there.

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EVENTS FOR OCT. 25 THROUGH NOV. 1

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 25

Operation Correction: rally to ban military recruitment
12 - 3 p.m.
UVic, outside the Student Union Building
Musical guests include Blank Space, Odditory Presence and Praxis

AGM: UVic Students' Society
3 p.m.
UVic, Student Union Building, Michelle Pujol Room
Includes motion to ban Canadian Military recruitment in the Student Union Building, and motion to adopt recommendations in report on UVSS elections.
Info: resource@uvss.uvic.ca

Sex, Drugs & Rock 'n Roll
4:45 - 5:45 p.m.
UVic, Phoenix Theatre
A play by Eric Bogosian. Suggested donation of $3. Warning: course language / mature themes.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 26

Sex, Drugs & Rock 'n Roll
4:45 - 5:45 p.m.
UVic, Phoenix Theatre
A play by Eric Bogosian. Suggested donation of $3. Warning: course language / mature themes.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 27

Diwali 2007
6:30 p.m.
UVic, University Centre Auditorium
With Young Stars Dancing School, Classical dancers, and UBC Girls Punjabi Bhangra team from Vancouver and many talented local artists! $12 (kids under 3 free).
Info: UVic ticket centre, 721-8480

Live Stand-up Comedy
9 p.m.
Murph's place, Vacation Inn
3020 Douglas st. (& Finlayson)
No cover. Comedy every Saturday at 9pm (or after Canucks game).
Info: 389-9962 (RSVP large groups)

MONDAY, OCTOBER 29

Gaining Our Ground: Tenacious Feminist Grant Writing in a Hostile Environment
7 - 9 p.m.
Solstice Café, 529 Pandora St.
In the wake of the federal government cuts to the Status of Women Canada in 2006, it is time for feminists to come together, re-organize, and make our voices heard. The workshop will be lead by Susan Bazilli, Director of the International Women's Rights Project. Susan has 25 years experience writing successful funding proposals for feminist organizations. The event is free. Please RSVP if you plan on attending.

To submit an event, please email promo@martlet.ca

Info/RSVP: Chloe Raxlen, 721-8800 or craxlen@gmail.com

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 30

Environmental Journalism
Noon - 1 p.m.
UVic, Sedgewick, room C141
It's a challenge to provide real context and engaging insight into complicated matters of science, health, technology, law, culture and economics. Whether your interest is investigative research, news features, or editorial writing, join the environmental journalism team to publish engaging environmental journalism that matters. Weekly meetings are held Tuesdays.
Info: environment@martlet.ca.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 31

Halloween Pumpkin Carving Contest
12:30 - 1:30 p.m. (round 1)
1:30 - 2:30 p.m. (round 2)
UVic, University Centre Breezeway
On Halloween, the Student Alumni Association will be hosting their annual pumpkin carving contest. The judging panel will include UVic Alumni. Pumpkins and candy will be provided. Bookstore gift cards will be awarded for the scariest, most creative and funniest pumpkin!
Info: mclee@uvic.ca

UPCOMING: NOVEMBER 8

Your Right to Know: How to Access Public Records
4 p.m.
UVic campus (room to be determined, see Nov. 1 Martlet)
Citizens, researchers and journalists have the right to access most information held by governments, universities and other public institutions. Readily accessable public information is essential to having more open and accountable government, a more informed electorate, and greater citizen participation in the democratic process. Will Horter is a lawyer and executive directive of Dogwood Initiative. He will share his insights into investigative research techniques and the use of provincial freedom of information laws to access public records.
Info: maned@martlet.ca, 721-8361

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